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Lawmakers OK \$1M for land comp, museum, NMD Corp. **PAGE 2**
Manglona dismisses SDLLC's lawsuit vs CUC over voided PPA. **PAGE 5**

Clash of views on number of Saipan casino licenses

» Governor addresses retirees, as some lawmakers eye more changes to casino law
» 3,700 petition signatures to put casino question on ballot



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos addresses retirees and former members of the defined benefit plan on the status of the Saipan casino license application process and the planned restoration of deferred 25 percent pension and other obligations, at the Minachom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe last night.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While there is still a big question whether or not an exclusive Saipan casino license will ever be granted and to whom, some lawmakers led by Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday they are eyeing floor amendments to a bill repealing and reenacting the casino law to allow for the granting of more than one license. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, meanwhile, briefed retirees and former defined benefit plan members last night about the casino license application process, as well as the many "distractions" that snag the restoration of deferred 25 percent pension and payment of withdrawn contributions' interest, among other things.

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Best Sunshine seeks to intervene in Marianas Stars lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc., against the CNMI government.

Casino license applicant Best Sunshine International Ltd. yesterday asked the Superior Court to allow it to intervene in a lawsuit filed by the other casino applicant,

» Casino applicant moves to dissolve or modify TRO against casino process

Best Sunshine International, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, also filed yesterday in Superior Court

an emergency motion to dissolve or See BEST SUNSHINE on Page 4

ASIANA AIRLINES SAFETY RULE PENALTY

Korean businesses in CNMI seek monetary penalty instead of 7-day flight suspension

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A petition signed by 120 members of the Korean business community in the CNMI asked the Korean government

to impose monetary fine instead of suspending flights to Saipan for seven days over safety rule violation. The Korean community's sentiment is also reflected in Gov. Eloy S. Inos' separate letter to

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Local

Lawmakers OK \$1M for land comp, museum, NMD Corp.

After a lengthy debate, Saipan lawmakers passed Tuesday a bill appropriating a total of \$1 million in Managaha landing fees—\$800,000 of which is for land compensation, \$100,000 for the NMI Museum of History and Culture, and \$100,000 for a non-profit corporation claiming to represent people of Northern Marianas descent by opposing a court ruling allowing non-NMDs to vote on Article 12 initiatives, opposing the CW program extension, opposing granting of improved status to long-term legal foreign workers in the CNMI, and opposing U.S. military use of Pagan, among other things.

House Local Bill 18-45, Draft 1 now goes to Gov. Eloy S. Inos. But as of yesterday, there's no telling whether the governor will line-item veto the public funds given to private group NMD Corp., similar to what he did with similar bills in the past.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), along with eight other members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, tried yesterday to give the \$100,000 previously proposed for the NMD Corp. to the Saipan Mayor's Office for its public service programs and services specifically the purchase of heavy equipment.

But 11 members voted down Deleon Guerrero's proposed floor amendment at 12:59pm.

They wanted the NMD Corp. to have the \$100,000 so that the private corporation can, among other things, rent office space,

hire people, and carry out the corporation's objectives that include awareness of laws and other public policies affecting NMDs.

As offered previously by Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), the \$100,000 for the NMD Corp. was taken from the total \$900,000 that are supposed to go toward compensating landowners for their lands that the government took for public roads, among other things.

Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) reiterated his strong opposition to giving funds to a private corporation at a time when the government is juggling money for critical services such as public health and public safety.

House Vice Speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), for his part, questioned the wisdom of funding a non-profit corporation so it can rent an office, hire personnel, and help register NMDs. He said the Commonwealth Election Commission is already tasked to register NMDs.

"What do we do if another group also proposes (to be funded) and also calls themselves NMDs? Is this body also ready and willing to foot the bill of the other group?" Dela Cruz said. He said the NMD Corp. should instead go to the Marianas Public Land Trust for financial help.

Deleon Guerrero said the NMD Corp. tends to also duplicate the functions of the constitutionally-created Carolinian Affairs Office and the Office of Indigenous Affairs, which are

annually funded.

"I believe this is misguided effort on our part...If we want to support NMDs, we should support these two offices. We don't need to be redundant," the House speaker said.

He then proposed a floor amendment to give the \$100,000 instead to the Saipan Mayor's Office, officials of which were present at the session, including Mayor Marian Tudela.

But Deleon Guerrero's floor amendment got only nine "yes" votes as opposed to 11 "no" votes. Of the 21-member SNILD, only Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) was absent.

The nine "yes" votes to support a \$100,000 funding for the Saipan Mayor's Office were Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Vice Speaker Dela Cruz, Speaker Deleon Guerrero, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), and Sen. Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan).

The 11 votes to give \$100,000 to the NMD Corp. came from Rep. George Camacho (R-Saipan), House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), Ogumoro, Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Richard Seman (R-Saipan), Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Tony Agulto (Ind-Saipan),

»2 other local bills set aside nearly \$3M for Saipan projects

Rep. Tony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

When it came to the main motion, 14 members voted "yes" to the amended bill appropriating \$1 million for land compensation, the museum and the NMD Corp., while six voted "no."

The House speaker himself voted "yes with serious reservation" on the amended bill that Rep. Tony Benavente authored, along with four other members.

Nearly \$3M

The Saipan delegation also passed chairman Tebuteb's House Local Bill 18-51, Draft 1, appropriating more than \$2.7 million in bond funds and associated

interest as the governor earlier asked the delegation to consider for use on eight capital improvement projects on Saipan such as for road paving, buying school buses, hospital bed replacements, and equipment purchases.

Speaker Deleon Guerrero offered a written floor amendment that the delegation adopted. The amended bill passed by a vote of 20-0 at 12:03pm.

Of the total appropriated amount of over \$2.7 million, the amended bill gives \$250,000 for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. for new hospital beds; \$250,000 for the Public School System's purchase of two new 66-passenger school buses; \$400,000 for Precinct I's vari-

ous CIPs; \$380,000 for Precinct II's various CIPs; \$450,000 for Precinct III's construction of a small amphitheater and related facilities at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan; \$273,969 for Precinct IV's various CIPs; \$600,000 for various Precinct V CIPs including for Kagman road paving; \$100,000 for the Saipan mayor's office; and \$50,000 for Saipan Souther High School's baseball field.

The delegation also passed Rep. Yumul's HLB 18-49, Draft 1 by a vote of 19-1 at 11:58am. The bill appropriates up to \$10,000 in Saipan's developer's infrastructure tax for Saipan programs and projects. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**

'Obamacare may hurt CNMI in long run'

According to Joeten Kiyu Public Library executive director John Gonzales and CNMI Consumer Assistance Program advocacy officer Kaitylyn Neises-Mocanu, the Affordable Healthcare Act, or Obamacare, will hurt the CNMI in the long run.

Gonzales told *Saipan Tribune* and those who also viewed his show "John Gonzales Live," that ACA will also be implemented to the territories but only in pieces.

Three legs are applied under the ACA, which is market reforms, individual mandate, and employer mandate, but only the market reforms is applied to the CNMI.

Under the ACA, the major goal of it is for "every American" to have affordable, com-

prehensive health insurance.

"It doesn't create a new public health insurance, rather it reformed and regulates private insurance coverage the goal of which mean to improve the quality in lowering the cost of healthcare to extend health insurance to all of U.S. citizens," Gonzales said.

"Obviously up north in Canada is universal healthcare and many other countries, so the U.S. wanted to reform in order to provide universal healthcare provided where it is feasible to all U.S. citizens," Gonzales said.

Mocanu also clarified to *Saipan Tribune* that federal law mandates only "market reforms" for the CNMI.

Which means, that if an insurer wants to sell an insurance

policy in 2014, the insurer must sell coverage to anyone applying in that market.

According to Mocanu, insurance companies run the risk of only insuring the sick which increase claim experience and raises premiums.

Since 2010, insurance companies cannot deny coverage to young adults on their parent's plan until they are 26, raise premiums without justification such as grants awarded for CNMI rate review, deny coverage of children because of a pre-existing condition, rescind coverage for no good reason, prohibit a consumer from filing an appeal on a coverage denial, and charge any cost sharing or deductibles for certain in-network preventive care services.

"Insurance companies can't spend less than 80 percent of premiums collected on medical claims, otherwise they must reimburse the difference to their enrollees. This keeps insurers accountable for how they spend your money," Mocanu said.

According to Mocanu in 2011 and 2012 over \$380,000 worth of rebates were given to CNMI residents because of the "medical loss ratio" rule.

The medical loss ratio rule is when the insurance rebates are being provided under a provision in the ACA that requires insurance companies to provide a rebate related to insurance premiums in certain situations.

Mocanu also said that in 2013 health insurance marketplaces, or "exchanges" opened in the U.S. mainland.

These exchanges are used to compare coverage and enroll in health insurance. This is due to the tax credits and subsidies offered in these exchanges, the CNMI could not afford this.

"All U.S. territories chose to use the one-time lump funding to expand Medicaid, rather than establish and exchange," Mocanu said. **(Jayson Camacho)**

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BEST SUNSHINE'S COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CNMI

In its response to the Request for Proposal for Casino Resort Developer License, Best Sunshine introduced its plans to create a Community Chest with an initial contribution of

US\$10,000,000 CASH

to be distributed to locally-born adults in the CNMI in the form of CUC cash vouchers within 60 days of Best Sunshine being awarded the exclusive license

Based on survey results and discussions with stakeholders in the community, Best Sunshine will commit the following additional funds to the Community Chest

US\$20,000,000 CASH

to be distributed within 60 days of Best Sunshine commencing construction works on its first hotel in the proposed Integrated Resort

AT LEAST US\$20,000,000 PER YEAR CASH

to be distributed every year after the 1st full year of operations of Best Sunshine's first hotel in the proposed Integrated Resort

IN ADDITION TO

Best Sunshine's firm commitment to the CNMI as part of the community outreach program, which will not only benefit organizations such as the hospital, churches, schools, training institutes, Transit Authority, medical referral program and Retirement Fund, but will also create numerous jobs for the local population

More:

US\$15,000,000

Aside from the Community Chest contribution, Best Sunshine will also pay the license fee for Year 6 of operations in advance.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this advertisement was presented to the Government as part of Best Sunshine's submission to the Request for Proposal for Casino Resort Developer License. All payments into the Community Chest and made from the Community Chest will be in compliance with federal and CNMI laws and subject to approval by the Government and acceptance by the people of the CNMI. The recipients who will benefit from the Community Chest will be a decision made by the principal officers of Best Sunshine and Best Sunshine will not be legally liable in any way for any special, direct, indirect or consequential loss or damage or for any taxes arising from the decision; furthermore, the decision might vary in the event of any legal disputes. If any part of this disclaimer is determined by any court or other competent authority to be unlawful and/or unenforceable, the other sections of this disclaimer continue in effect.

Cohen: People should decide casino gaming on Saipan

Marianas Stars Entertainment consultant David B. Cohen said they don't have a position on casino gaming on Saipan and that the company is leaving the decision on the people if they want to continue the process or not.

Speaking before Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting

at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, the former deputy assistant secretary for Office of Insular Affairs said Marianas Stars is leaving the decision on the people.

"We defer to the prerogative of the people, either directly or through their elected representatives, to decide for themselves

whether casino gaming should be allowed on Saipan."

According to Cohen they take no position on the referendum to repeal the Saipan casino statute and are obstinately opposed to any effort to sabotage the campaign to put those referendum on the ballot.

"We're not trying to scare the people of the CNMI into believing that they desperately need us. We're the ones who trust the intelligence of the people of the CNMI to decide for themselves whether or not they want us," he added. "The right of the people to decide their own future should not be defeated by technicalities."

He also said that if there will

be casino gaming on Saipan they want to compete for that share of that business.

Cohen also said that their sister company, Mega Stars Overseas Ltd., now owners of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino had already invested over \$40 million in a "white knight" rescue of the hotel in Tinian.

"They've paid back taxes, back wages, and back invoices to suppliers," Cohen said.

Cohen said that Mega Stars worries that if a competitor were to have an exclusive license for a mega-casino on Saipan, it would jeopardize the jobs and revenues of the company that provides for Tinian.

"Tinian's local government depends on Mega Stars, as do over 600 employees. If Marianas Stars had a casino license on Saipan, it would, because of its affiliation with Mega Stars, have every incentive to promote the prosperity of both islands," Cohen said.

Cohen also said that there are plans underway to invest over \$600 million on Tinian.

Park Strategies senior vice president and Marianas Star consultant Sean King confirmed

that Tinian Dynasty is planning to invest up to \$600 million for a water park and other resort facilities on the island.

According to King there are no exact dates yet but he does know that there are plans underway.

"The plans were underway before the Saipan casino law was passed so these plans were already in process," King said.

Cohen also said that another plan is to improve transportation links between the islands, not only to transport guests back and forth between Saipan and Tinian but to also provide "improved connections" to Rota and Guam as well.

"We're the only applicant that has a built-in incentive to promote prosperity on all of the islands, not just one," Cohen said.

Best Sunshine International Ltd.'s chief operating officer Terence Tay said that Tinian Dynasty has been around for a long time. He said as far as their casino resort on Saipan is concerned what Best Sunshine plans to build will be for the CNMI people as a whole "so there will be a lot investments." (*Jason Camacho*)

KOREAN

From Page 1

the Korean government asking for an "alternative penalty" on Asiana Airlines, given that a seven-day flight suspension to Saipan has a potential negative impact of at least \$6.7 million on the CNMI economy.

The petition's cover letter was signed by *Saipan Times* president Hong Kyun Kim and Korean Tour Guides Association Chan-Sik Park.

The petition letter, a copy of

which was obtained yesterday, is dated June 16, preceding the governor's June 20 letter also to Korea's Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Suh Seoung-hwan.

The letters acknowledge Asiana Airlines' violation of safety rules, but also noted that the Korean government's proposed penalty of flight suspension would cause economic injury to the CNMI.

Visitor arrivals from Korea account for 35 percent of the CNMI's total visitor mix, and Asiana Airlines is the sole carrier

between the CNMI and Korea.

The Korean community said yesterday they appreciate the CNMI governor's letter to the Korean government.

Asiana Airlines acknowledges its safety violation "and will not dispute the government of the Republic of Korea's action," the governor added.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry J. Tenorio earlier said suspending Asiana Airlines' flights to Saipan for seven days could result in an estimated \$6.7 million economic loss to the CNMI

Representatives to act on it.

Yumul and other members were initially poised to suggest amending the bill on committee level to allow more than one Saipan casino license that can be granted, although there were other proposed amendments discussed such as making the commission members full-time government employees.

"Since we're talking about revenue-generation, why not consider multi-license? Strike out the word 'exclusive,'" Yumul later said, adding that members respect the chairman's position to allow the full House to decide on the bill.

Sablan said those who are not members of the Ways and Means Committee could also offer floor amendments if they so choose once the bill gets to the floor. The next House session could be next week, depending on whether the same committee could pre-file the fiscal year 2015 budget bill by then.

But had the proposed amendment on the number of licenses been put to a vote yesterday, there could have been a deadlock of 5-5 between Ways and Means Committee members present wanting to retain an exclusive license and those who are open to multiple casino licenses on Saipan. It was not clear whether Speaker Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), who was observing the committee meeting, could break such a deadlock had it happened.

The governor, when asked about a proposed floor amendment to HB 18-195, said the CNMI would be taking a chance on having more than one casino license.

"I mean that's fine but will we have takers? Two takers? I guarantee probably only one," he said.

The governor and some lawmakers showed up at a 5:30pm meeting of retirees and former DB members—about 100 of them—at the Minachom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe.

Gregorio "Kazuma" Camacho, co-organizer of the meeting, said retirees and former DB members have to unite to protect their interests. He said they invited the governor and lawmakers to update them on the status of the Saipan casino license application, as well as answer their questions about the restoration of retirees' deferred 25 percent pension and the payment of interest on DB contributions withdrawn last year.

"We also want to express our support to having casino on Saipan. One is enough," he said.

The governor, in addressing retirees and former DB members last night, said the TRO, the referendum petition, the "No to casino" signs and lack of action on HB 18-195, among other things, have proven to be "distractions" to the award of a casino license that would pave the way for the payment of retirees' 25 percent pension and DB members' retirement contribution interests, as well as subsidy to lower utility rates.

Inos, in an interview later, said his main message is that allowing casino operations on Saipan will generate fresh revenues needed to meet so many of the CNMI's financial needs.

"Yes, unless I have alternatives which I don't have. But if somebody else has a viable alternative then I'm all for talking about what we can do. But right now, it's the only thing that's on the table," he told reporters.

The governor said it doesn't have to be one license "but I don't think we will be able to get the value with several (licenses)...It's just business. They want to open it up and make it two—they're not going to come in and invest \$2 billion but I'm saying this because they haven't said anything. They just say two licenses. So what do you mean? I like to see. Maybe two licenses but maybe let's double up the ante," he said, referring to doubling the annual casino license from \$15 million

to \$30 million for each of two casino license holders.

He said Marianas Stars met with him some two weeks ago wherein the investor group broached the subject of granting more than one license.

The governor said he told Marianas Stars that changing rules can't be done in mid-stream, the same statement he had when first asked on June 15 about the idea of two licenses.

Former representative and former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente, now a retiree, said going from one casino license to more than one in the middle of an application process poses a lot of problems.

"Is this nothing more than an attempt to disrupt the process? Block proposed investments? If they change the number of licenses to be granted, will all of them be required to put up a minimum of \$2 billion still, and pay a \$15 million annual license fee still?" Benavente said.

He added that having 4,000 additional rooms—2,000 guest rooms each per casino investor—won't be feasible because Saipan's infrastructure won't be able to support that. He said one 2,000-room hotel could bring in some 400,000 tourists that could add to what the CNMI receives right now on average for a total of 800,000 a year.

"At one time, the CNMI was able to receive 800,000 tourists a year. I would be comfortable with that because the CNMI was able to handle that many tourists," he added.

Inos also told reporters last night that floating a pension obligation bond could be a last resort, but reiterated that a POB flotation entails interest payment.

The governor said floating a POB is not expected this year unless the "need arises." As to the amount of bond to be floated when it had to be done, he said it's a "moving target." Some figures earlier discussed were \$60 million, \$80 million, and \$120 million."

CLASH

From Page 1

Concerned citizen Leila Staffler, moreover, said yesterday afternoon they now have some 3,700 signatures from individuals who want to put the Saipan casino question on the ballot in the November election, a number much greater than the estimated 3,250 required or 20 percent of registered voters.

Staffler said they target 4,500 signatures by the time they submit the petition to the Office of the Attorney General on July 2. They are aiming that number as precautionary measures just in case the OAG finds issues with some of the signatures.

"The whole purpose is to give the people a chance to decide, in the privacy of a voter's booth, what they think is best for the island," Staffler said. For those who want to sign the petition, she said she can be reached at 989-6003.

There are two investor applicants vying for a license to exclusively develop a minimum \$2-billion integrated casino resort on Saipan. They are Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc. and Best Sunshine International Ltd.

Marianas Stars is now suggesting the granting of two licenses instead of one, but Best Sunshine said it is too late to change the rules of the game. There is also now an extended temporary restraining order stopping the CNMI government from either denying or approving a casino license, following Marianas Stars' lawsuit and request of a TRO.

2 or more licenses

The House Ways and Means Committee chaired by Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) did not take a position yesterday on House Bill 18-195, which seeks to repeal and reenact the Saipan casino law, but voted unanimously instead to report the bill as is to allow the full House of

BEST SUNSHINE

From Page 1

modify the temporary restraining order that stops Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the CNMI government, the Commonwealth Lottery Commission, and the Finance secretary from either denying or approving a casino license.

Dotts said Best Sunshine International should be allowed into this lawsuit to defend the statute that will make it possible for Best Sunshine to obtain a casino license.

Dotts said the TRO should either be immediately dissolved or immediately modified so that only disbursement of the \$30 million deposited by Marianas Stars Entertainment be enjoined if the company is issued the license.

"If at all possible the court should take action before Friday, June 27, 2014, so that if the Lottery Commission is going to act, it can comply with the Open Government Act," said Dotts in the emergency motion.

Last June 19, Wiseman issued the TRO after Marianas Stars Entertainment filed on that same day the lawsuit and requested a TRO. Marianas Stars, through counsel Sean Frink, asserted among other things, that the company will be irreparably harmed if the TRO is not issued pending the resolution of its case.

Frink said a casino license cannot be issued without the participation of the Casino Commission, which does not exist yet because no commissioners have been approved to serve.

In Best Sunshine's motion to intervene, Dotts said Marianas Stars, through a preliminary injunction, is seeking to shut down and prevent the government from moving forward with the application process.

The hearing on the preliminary injunction will be on July 1 at 1:30pm.

Dotts said his client has a keen interest in the process for the award of a casino license moving forward in accordance with the law.

Dotts said Best Sunshine paid a \$1-million nonrefundable deposit with the CNMI in support of its application and tied up an additional \$30 million in an escrow account in reliance on the CNMI following the law and properly awarding an exclusive casino license.

The lawyer said Marianas Stars filed the lawsuit because it knows it cannot have a Saipan casino license relief and therefore it needs to protect the license it has on Tinian.

On the emergency motion, Dotts said if the court does not dissolve or modify its TRO immediately, the intention of the law for the prompt issuance of a casino license and the expeditious release of \$30 million from escrow to address public needs will be frustrated, and that tremendous costs will befall Best Sunshine.

Dotts said the Legislature set up the 90-day deadline (June 30, 2014) for the Lottery Commission to award the casino license.

Dotts said the Legislature clearly wanted the \$30 million released as soon as possible so that it could go to address public needs.

The lawyer said Marianas Stars is primarily concerned that if it is awarded the license and its \$30 million is released, and then the Act invalidated, it will not get back its \$30 million.

Dotts said only the Marianas Stars' \$30 million deposit need be enjoined.

"There is no reason to restrain the award of the license," he added.

Manglona dismisses SDLLC's lawsuit vs CUC over voided PPA

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ruled that the court abstains from hearing Saipan Development LLC's lawsuit against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. over the voided power purchase agreement.

In an order issued on Tuesday, Manglona granted CUC's motion to dismiss SDLLC's lawsuit with prejudice. Dismissal with prejudice means SDLLC cannot re-open the case.

SDLLC is the Delaware-based contractor of the controversial \$190.8-million PPA that then-governor Benigno R. Fitial and then-attorney gen-

eral Edward T. Buckingham inked on behalf of CUC.

Manglona said the fact that a lawsuit filed in Superior Court preceded this federal case for over a year; that the CNMI court had already resolved a crucial substantive issue; and that SDLLC received adequate protection through its full participation in the CNMI court action provides sufficient bases and the clearest of justifications to abstain from exercising jurisdiction.

According to court records, in 2012, SDLLC negotiated and entered into a contract with CUC for a new power plant. Fitial and Buckingham signed the contract on behalf of CUC.

That same year, Rep. Janet Maratita (IR-Saipan) and sev-

eral others brought a taxpayers action in local courts against among others, SDLLC and CUC, seeking to declare the contract invalid.

In January 2013, Buckingham's successor as AG informed SDLLC that the contract was legally invalid and void from the beginning.

Eleven months later, SDLLC filed its breach of contract lawsuit against CUC in federal court.

CUC, through counsel Deborah E. Fisher, then moved to dismiss SDLLC's lawsuit.

Fisher argued, among other things, that the decision of Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman to declare as void from the beginning the PPA should preclude SDLLC's

lawsuit in federal court.

Fisher said the federal court should apply principles of issue preclusion and comity, and consider Wiseman's order preclusive.

In SDLLC's opposition to CUC's motion, SDLLC counsel William Fitzgerald, asserted, among other things, that Fitial's executive order excuses CUC from complying with procurement regulations and that this means that the PPA was valid.

CUC's motion to dismiss raises five issues: subject matter jurisdiction, necessary parties, abstention, dismissal for an illegal contract and dismissal for a shotgun pleading.

In granting CUC's motion to dismiss, Manglona discussed only the first three issues after

finding these matter dispositive.

Manglona said if the party involving federal jurisdiction appears to be forum shopping, it is a factor favoring abstention.

In this case, Manglona said, it appears SDLLC is forum shopping.

The judge noted that the Superior Court action had already progressed over a year—and vigorous motion practice undertaken—before SDLLC brought this lawsuit in federal court.

"So it appears that, after undertaking substantial litigation of the issues there, Saipan Development found itself dissatisfied with the Commonwealth court's course and sought a do-over in federal court," Manglona said.

To be sure, Manglona said, SDLLC does have a right under the contract to submit disputes to this court.

The judge said to avoid the appearance of forum shopping, it should have exercised this right sooner.

Indeed, she pointed out, it was a full 11 months after the AG said the contract was void—and 15 months after the Superior Court action's filing—before SDLLC filed this lawsuit in federal court.

"Thus, this factor favors abstention," Manglona said.

Manglona said to favor abstention, the state proceeding must be "substantially similar" to this one and must yield "comprehensive disposition of litigation."

"Here it is and it does. The whole dispute here is over a breach of contract. The Commonwealth court has already declared that contract void, thus nullifying any action upon it," she said.

Saipan Mayor's Office investigating collection of marriage license fees

Saipan Mayor Marian Deleon Guerrero Tudela said her office is investigating reports of fees being collected for marriage certificates at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

The mayor's office alleged collection of excessive marriage fees came to light after a person who requested anonymity called the *Saipan Tribune* and reported the concern.

The anonymous source said before the late mayor Donald Glenn Flores' untimely passing, a staff from the Saipan Mayor's Office had already been collecting the marriage fees and this had been happening for quite a while.

The source said on May 30 a Chinese couple came to the mayor's office and told one of the staff that they were there to give payment for the fees.

The same source said last Friday another couple came in and

complained about the same issue after they had seen the sign up on the mayor's office claiming, "They paid the said staff \$100."

Saipan Tribune tried to get comments from Tudela and the mayor's special adviser, Henry Hofschneider, but both told *Saipan Tribune* that they have nothing to discuss at the moment because they are still looking into the matter.

Tudela's office did confirm earlier that it had been receiving similar reports and she told *Saipan Tribune* that she is very concerned and wants it to be looked into.

According to Hofschneider and Tudela, the mayor's office does not receive payment nor collects payment and that the entire marriage licensing process is done by the Division of Treasury located at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe. (*Jason Camacho*)

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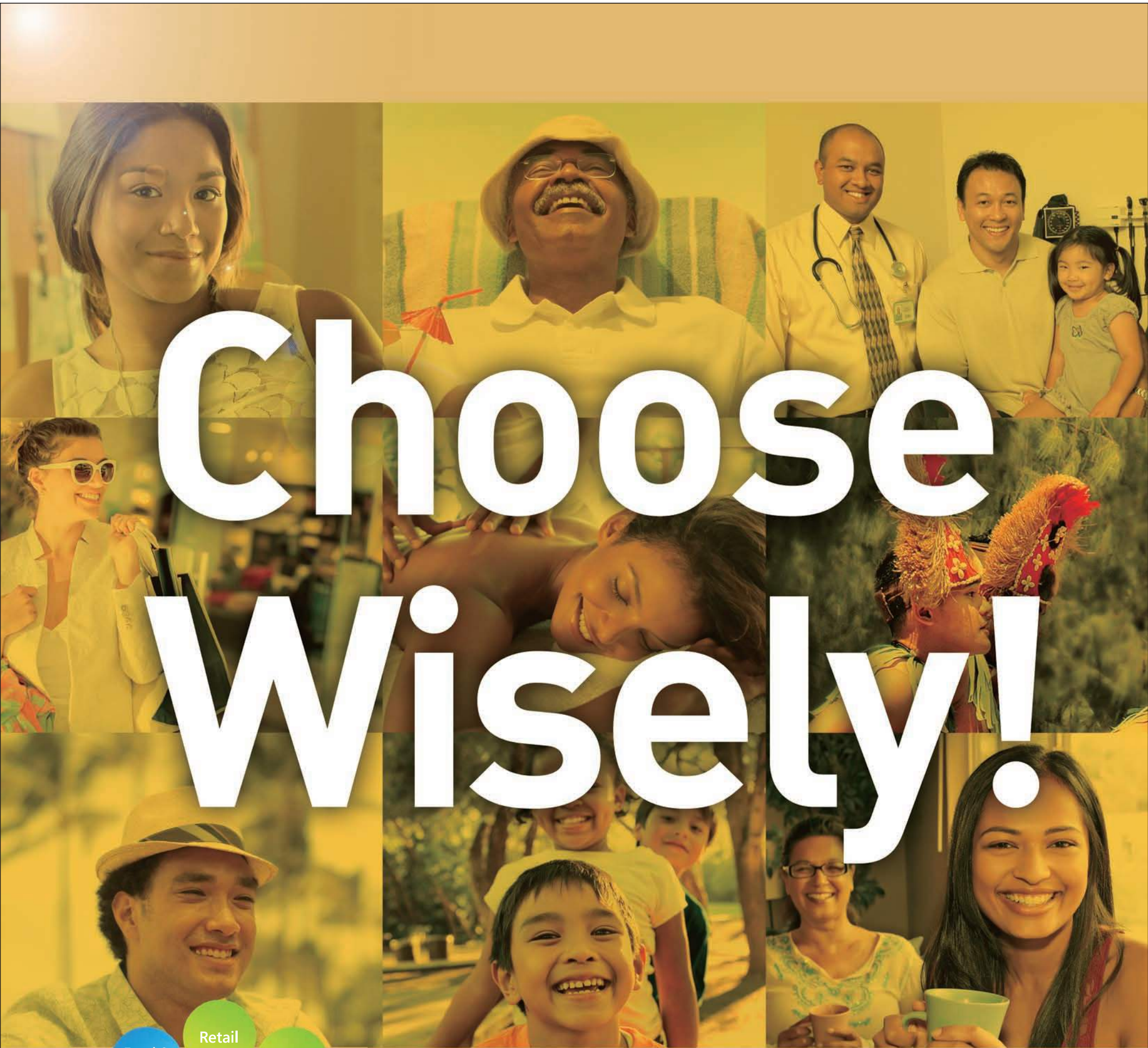
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Hospital assures new payment for monthly utility use

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Citing a boost in its collections, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. assured the public that utility services will not be interrupted at the hospital come July, which is the scheduled date eyed by the utilities company to cut power in selected non-essential services if the hospital's monthly consumption is not paid in full.

In fact, corporation CEO Esther L. Muna disclosed that a check payment amounting to \$400,000 is now being readied for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

A few weeks ago, CHCC made payment of about the same amount for its power and water consumption for the month of April. A new check



Muna

is ready to cover May's consumption.

"The \$400,000 is based on our consumption for the month. And this doesn't include the arrears which is still

sitting there," Muna said, alluding to the unpaid utility obligations for many years.

Based on CUC records as of May 31, 2014, CHCC's debt totals \$12.521 million. Of this amount, \$485,127 past 30 days; \$530,458.39 aged 30-59 days; \$531,501.39 past 60-89 days; \$475,196.59 past 90-119 days; and \$10,498,823.39 past over 120 days.

On these outstanding arrears, the CEO said that newly hired CFO Jack Taisague was tasked to work a plan with CUC management. A payment scheme, she added, will be part of the business plan expected from the CFO.

According to the CEO, the anticipated new payment to CUC was sourced from hospital collections, which Muna described as beefing up.

Early this month, CHCC received from the Marianas Public Land Trust \$3 million representing the extended line of credit for one year.

Muna disclosed that of this \$3 million, there remains about \$1.5 million untouched, which the corporation reserves for the hospital's immediate needs.

Half of the MPLT monies, it was disclosed, were utilized in paying a portion of the hospital's obligations to vendors. Muna revealed that for one specific vendor alone, the corporation was able to pay close to \$1 million using the line of credit funds. The other portion was shared with other vendors whom the CEO revealed is now receiving timely payment—little by little—from the corporation.



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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 26, 2006

Unpaid tax rebates total \$8M

The CNMI government is behind by at least \$8 million in the payment of fiscal year 2004 tax rebates, according to Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos. In the governor's weekly press conference Friday, Inos reported that the amount was down from the estimated \$15 million of unpaid rebates that were unpaid when the Fitial administration stepped in almost half a year ago. He expressed hope that the Finance Department would be able to catch up and get the rest of the FY2004 rebates released before the end of the fiscal year.

Govt funding to be issued on piecemeal basis

Owing to the government's \$32 million budget shortfall projection, funding for public programs would be issued on a piecemeal basis during the last quarter of the fiscal year, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial announced Friday. The governor said he had instructed the Office of Management and Budget to issue allotment notice to each government agency on a monthly basis, rather than on the usual quarterly basis, from July to September 2006. "We can't issue a quarterly allotment advice if we don't have the money to cover the entire quarter," Fitial said. Antonio Muna, the governor's special assistant for management and budget, said that the monthly allotment advice was expected to affect government operations within and outside of the Executive Branch.

June 26, 2007

Renewal of lobbyist contract hangs fire

The Fitial administration's contract with its D.C. consultant is nearing its end, but it remains unclear whether the firm will remain on the local government's payroll. Oldaker, Biden & Belair was hired to block U.S. legislation federalizing the local minimum wage and immigration. It is paid \$90,000, plus approved expenses, for a six-month period ending on Monday, July 9, 2007. However, press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said yesterday he was not sure whether the governor intends to renew the contract. "I think it's safe to say that it will be reasonable for the CNMI to continue having a D.C. consultant. We need a link to Washington, D.C. to keep us informed about what's going on. It is essential for us to have somebody on the ground, in addition to the resident representative's office.

CNMI students are still interested in health career

Students in the CNMI are still interested in pursuing careers in the health care industry, according to Area Health Education Center Program director Dr. Faye Untalan. Untalan led the 2007 Summer Health Career Program presentation of certificates to this year's participants Friday afternoon at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret. There were 21 high school students who participated in the summer program, a slight drop from the 23 who participated last year. Still, Untalan said this is an excellent turnout. The training was held from June 11 to 22.

June 26, 2008

Major economic disruption seen

Federal authority over the Commonwealth's immigration laws will prove a "major economic disruption" as foreign workers are forced to leave and businesses are driven to compete for available labor, according to excerpts of a pending economic report and a key adviser to Gov. Benigno Fitial. President Bush earlier this year signed legislation federalizing the Commonwealth's immigration rules in a move that many local business leaders say will devastate the economy. In response, Fitial on Tuesday disclosed he might file suit against the federal government in a bid to overturn the new law.

Subway donates meal vouchers to Oceania volunteers

Subway Investments Corp. has donated 50 meal vouchers to volunteers of this year's Oceania Championships and Oceania Grand Prix. The donation was handed over by Stella Fong, Subway Investments Corp. vice president, to Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb, chairman of the Oceania local organizing committee, in the Subway office at Transpacific Business Center in Gualo Rai on June 19. Fong said the donation, given upon the organizing committee's request, was a token of S Subway's support for the volunteers and the event itself, while keeping in line with efforts to promote a healthy lifestyle.



DO YOU CARE?

DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS HEARD ON WHETHER CASINO GAMING WILL BE ALLOWED ON SAIPAN? **MARIANAS STARS** supports the right of the people, either directly or through their elected representatives, to decide the future of their islands. We oppose any efforts to gut the referendum process. In legislative proceedings, we support a thorough, deliberate and transparent process where the people have the opportunity to be heard. We would be honored to be awarded a casino gaming license on Saipan, but only through a fair and transparent process that has the broad support of the people.

DO YOU CARE WHETHER TINIAN AND ROTA WILL PROSPER ALONG WITH SAIPAN? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** has a plan to ensure that the islands will develop together. Our sister company has already invested over \$40 million on Tinian, and has plans to invest over \$600 million more for a 5-star hotel, luxury villas, a golf course, a water park and other projects. If we are fortunate enough to receive a license on Saipan, we would have every incentive to make sure that our projects on both islands prosper. Part of our plan would be to improve transportation links between the islands—not only to transport guests back and forth between Saipan and Tinian, but to provide much improved connections to Rota and Guam as well.

DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE CNMI GETS THE MONEY IT NEEDS TO HELP RETIREES, STUDENTS, WORKERS AND EVERYONE ELSE? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** respectfully requests that the following proposal be considered: Don't just award one license, award two—assuming each applicant meets the qualifications. Take the current plan for one 2,000-room mega-resort and split it into two 1,000-room resorts. But keep the fees the same for each licensee, so that the CNMI gets a total of \$30 million per year from the two licensees rather than just \$15 million from one. Each applicant will get half a loaf, but the CNMI will get twice the revenue for the retirees. For health care. For schools. For infrastructure. For everyone. Healthy competition will create greater prosperity and greater accountability. More importantly, a non-monopoly assures the integrity of the process, removing any suspicion that legislation was rushed, or designed, for any one bidder.

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Si Yu'us Ma'ase. Oloomway. Thank You.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Egypt's fear of the truth; three reporters face prison for doing their jobs

After meeting with Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi in Cairo on Sunday, Secretary of State John Kerry said he had raised human rights concerns and that the new Egyptian president "gave me a very strong sense of his commitment" to reconsider the government's policies. He also said that Washington had restored military aid to Egypt, promising early delivery of 10 attack helicopters.

We'll soon find out if el-Sissi is truly willing to reconsider and whether the assistance will give us much leverage. On Monday, an Egyptian court convicted three respected journalists on charges of helping a terrorist organization. Kerry said the verdict was "chilling and draconian" and called the Egyptian foreign minister to object.

He had good reason for complaint. The supposed terrorist organization is the Muslim Brotherhood, which was long banned in Egypt but nonetheless represents the biggest political group in the country. In 2012, in their first authentic democratic election, Egyptians gave the presidency to Mohammed Morsi, a member of the Brotherhood.

But the military overthrew Morsi after he had been in office only a year. Since then, the generals in charge have been targeting the group, mainly to keep their iron hold on power. "The government seems motivated solely by its desire to crush a major opposition movement," says Sarah Leah Whitson of Human Rights Watch.

This trial is just the latest chapter in the crackdown on dissent that began last year. Even so, the families of the defendants expected acquittals because the prosecution's case was so laughably weak.

The three were reporters for the Qatar-based English-language network of al-Jazeera. The evidence against them included a strange array of irrelevant items, from videos of horses to a song by multi-instrumentalist and singer Gotye. The presiding judge told them in May that if they wanted copies of the stories that they allegedly fabricated, they would have to pay \$170,000 — and then upbraided their lawyers for failing to do so.

Prosecutors couldn't be bothered to offer proof that the reports were faked or that those charged had anything to do with the Muslim Brotherhood. One of the defendants has both Egyptian and Canadian citizenship and drinks alcohol, hardly the profile of a zealous Islamist. Another is an Australian who had been in the country only a few days when he was arrested.

But it didn't matter. All three received sentences of seven years in prison for helping terrorists and undermining national security. One got an additional three years for possession of a weapon — a spent bullet casing he found at a protest and kept as a memento. Courtroom spectators were shocked when the guilty verdict was announced.

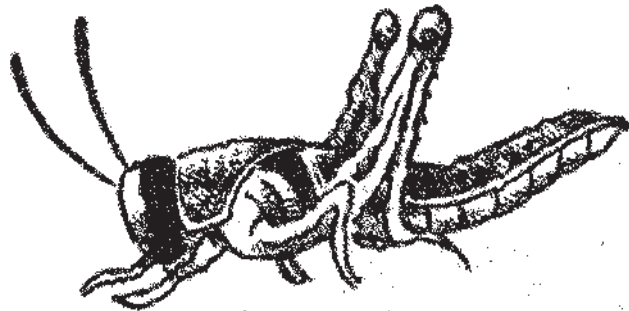
The defendant's real crimes were twofold: practicing journalism under a government that wants to suppress independent sources of information and working for a news organization underwritten by a government, Qatar's, that supports the Muslim Brotherhood.

El-Sissi could pardon these men or he could commute their sentences. Either action would be better than doing nothing.

What he really needs to do is ease off his fierce attack on peaceful opposition and open up space in which Egyptians can debate their future. It seems that what scares the regime most is not terrorism, but truth.

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Biblical Plagues



Locusts



Frogs



Vermin

Modern Plagues

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By the Diablo mountains

Concord on the northeast side of the Bay Area of San Francisco lies on the western slopes of the Diablo mountain range whose peak and hills extends from Costa Contra County in the north to the Kern County south where Bakersfield is county seat. Concord is the largest city of Costa Contra next to the county seat of Martinez.

My daughter's house is about four houses from Buchanan Airfield that straddles the border of Martinez and Concord. The airport is a controversial prime property and its function as an airport with jets has since been replaced by Byron airport and as an airfield diminished to hosting small propeller engine planes. Buchanan's history began as the Concord Air Force Base in the 1940s on to being an originating point to military flights headed for the Korean theatre.

On this week's visit, my daughter's Queensland heeler dog barked as pilots training to fly prop planes from the airfield buzzed the neighborhood. The U.S. Coast Guard uses the facility for emergency purposes, particularly to drench bush fires in the brown hills surrounding the verdant forest of the Diablo peaks seen from a distance.

This is not a travelogue on the mountain range nor on the interesting Bay Point of the San Francisco Bay Area extending toward, Pittsburg, CA, the current end point of the BART's Yellow Line. A descriptive tour might delight our California readership, but that has not been the regular tone of this column.

Nor an introduction of Concord, Martinez, and Walnut Creek (CM&WC) would be unwelcomed by the towns consumers for they have converted their downtown areas as shopping centers of boutique quality, and in this mode, the towns are quaint with antiques, and contemporary in coffee shops where a hazelnut macchiato in espresso is not an uncommon fare!

It is the "devil" in "Diablo" that intrigues us and why that would even be relevant in the downtown areas of CM&WC where retirees tend their social nets well and have come to live and are visibly in display all over the place enjoying the sunset of their years. There are younger families in the area, my daughter's included but of the short times she cruised with me in the three towns looking for a place that might sell USB connectors to two external drives that have photos of my China home I wanted to share, the places teemed with well-heeled retirees who did not hesitate to draw out their credit cards for any purchase in any of the stores.

A disambiguation: "Diablo" is used as name for fictional characters, music pieces, video games, places like the aforementioned mountain range, sports personalities and teams, a gene that negatively interacts with the death cell, and a type of hot, dry wind common in many deserts.

There was once a USS *Diablo* American submarine named af-

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



ter a deep-sea bottom-dwelling batfish of the West Indies whose first assignment was to sail to Saipan after it was commissioned just before the end of WWII hostilities. Exchange of firepower on Mt. Tapuchao ceased before the Diablo reached its destination so its eventual first portage was Guam. The submarine was delivered later to the Pakistan navy in a military assistance package and became the *Ghazi*, Pakistan's sole underwater military submersible that mysteriously sank in 1971.

My devilish sense looking up at the majestic mountain range from Concord probably stems from my detachment from the rabid consumerism now attendant to a country that still holds my fealty and political devotion. Everywhere I turn in my visits to my two daughters' families, the symbols of economic prosperity around them are held up as the overriding preoccupation of identity, vocation, and lifestyle. No activity or value is worth pursuing until one had done the math on how much it will cost, or what amount will be gained, a cultural practice of estimation I am not privy to.

As a retired member of the straddling class between the "silent" and "baby boomer" generations, I might still carry the traditional value of personal character against personal wealth as criteria for measuring an individual's worth. While finances are obviously very important, and my daughters are not by any measure counting their pennies, they have yet to make it the overriding consideration in gauging people's social standing. Happily, I might claim that my daughters' attitude, to a certain degree, reflects that of their father.

I am evidently divorced from the contemporary preoccupation of personal worth by accumulation and expenditure, not from the inability to earn the dough (though the charge had been leveled against my earning skills) as it is an absence of passion to follow the acquisitive path; I am too habitually at home in the monastic practice of earthly detachment. I do not condemn the practice but I acknowledge that I no longer belong to this age. In fact, my room smells too much of my age that I have to open my window to let the Diablo air and the hydrocarbon emissions of fast moving traffic on CA State Highway 4 not too far from my breathing, to come in.

The devil is in the details, we say. This one is mountain size.

Para haye i adelantu?

Sessu hu faisen maisayu` pot kuestion adelantu: Para Haye? Pot ihemplo, sige mana`en ñaihon i mas primera siha na kanton unai para hotel. I chumoneg ennau na disision ya monana pot adelantun ekonomia. Ya hafa na adelantu para i natibu?

Guiya ayu siha na kanton tasi `nai sessu i natibu pumeskan figsa, chenchulu, talaya yan panag antes. Tinilaika este na kuturata ni antala` tatautau siha gi hilu` unai. Esta man-maprohibe hit man-hihot pot bisita i man-gaige guennau na lugat pa`gu.

Esta ti man-obra hit man-peska `sino kumilili` atiluñg la`uyata guatu gi kanton tasi. Guaha lugat `nai sessu ham man-epañglau. Pa`gu lugat kareta yan tinanom flores ni man-madispoñga kada dos semana. Lau hagas lugat peskan pañglau.

Mahatsa hotel siha `nai kometsiante mamatinas ganansia. Ayu ha pegaye hit i fina` kontribusion tax. Dispues ha umpañg kantidan keblen niha ya mana` hanau tatte gi tano` niha. I umestotobayu` i petmanente madisplantu modun linala` natibu pot suspichosu na adelantu. Gaige giya siha ennau na adelantu, `an sopblan poñgpuñg pan patte-ta.

Ginen este na finaposta mohon u guaha kabales na ininan todun planu yan kau enfin dibras i adelantu pat para siha lamayot patte. Ga`oghu katdun pañglau yan tininon guihan ke `antala` tatautau bisita gi hilu` unai. Hokog mames probechun natibu!

Poñgpuñg Adelantu

I lugat kanton tasi malimitte pa`gu giya Paupau, dididi` Puntan Muchot, Inai iya Oleai yan `nos kuantos lugat gi santatte. I impottansiaña kanton tasi i dinaña familia yan dididi` fina` peska. Man-libre famaguon isla man-o`mag gi tasi sa` patte i tasi ti tano` niha. Ha pañgon hihot na dinaña familia `nai masimientu mas inagofli`e giya hita.

Mas paire i dinaña `an guaha peskadot `sino talayeru gi tropa. Mofona humuyuñg man-rikonose ya `nai suette todun umaprubecha kau kelaguen tiau pat satmonitiyun yan tarakitiyun. Piot ya mana` pikaka i kelaguen ni doni` sali. Debi u fan pinalai todun! I natibu metgot na talin pogse` sumustetene deste antes. Dinaña i fitme na haligen yan pinsun natibu.

Nesessariu Planu

Pot mas ke 20 años tatnai hu li`e mafotman kabales estudiau na planun adelantu. Poresu, todun kinalamten masaulag supin tasi. `Nai todun lache sige man-afaisen man-sabiun I Deni` hafa guaha. Sessu kumefalagnos gi sikoshu na kalu i totniyon redan san-mena. Lau haf` taimanu na ni unu ume`ekuñgog. Kada kuat konsu hinassoña ni mafañagu gi hilu` supin tasi.

Gi hilu` supin tasi taya` ha sedi fuerake para ta falague tatte manu `nai masge che`cho`ta para tafan e`suette puede dinanche. Gi `nai seriosu asuntun linahyan, magahet na supin tasi na eskalera `nai para umatrata? Haf` na man-ma`añau hit fotmat yan estudiau na planu? Gi finu` liñguahen “computer”, trash in trash out. Basula ke basula che`cho`ta pues basula lokue` uttimo-ta.

Pot para ta komprende: Iya Guam ha deklarado 24 pot sientu na adelantu gi ekonomiaña. Iya Marianas parehu figura lau atlibes—disadelantu! Naturat sa` iya Guam gai planu, hita ni papet komun. Manu i ginacha` ayu ha` `nai poduñg sin konsiderasion gi linala` i mas man-chatsaga. Dios mihu na diskuidu!

Finu` kantan tradision

Ayu na kanta-ta “Ti Gi Un` Palasyon I Riku” bonito na sunidu pot o`perlas iya Marianas. Paire parehu ha` i sustansiau na palabra yan dobladan sotfa.

Ilelegña patte, “Ya ti siña hu tulaika sa` tat mas gefsaga, kumu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

ayu siha na islas i Islas Marianas”. Yangin appuntau pat ma-elihe hau na offisiat publiku mauleg un` sessu kumanta este na sunidu. Siña kasse pinañgon hinassomu haf` sustansian tautau-mu guine siha na islas.

Estague` na tanu` i halom gima`ta, ahe ti siña tana` parehu yan otrun lugat siha. Ni kuantu tiempu un` diñgu siempre un` bira hau mage entre tatautau-mu enteru `sino espiritu-mu. Hombre i galagu `an matai todun i tiempu ha fafana` ayu na lugat `nai mafañagu.

Chalan iya hame

Sessu antes i defuntu Digu` ha kanta “Bendise chalan iya hame...sa esta ti bai birayu` mage...” Ti hu tuñgu` i finagpo`ña ayu na kanta ya sessu hu kepula` hafa ilelegña.

Kau hinanau pot umakamu` ya ha diñgu gima` mañainaña pat finatai? Kasse umafagcha` gi dos fina`pos `sino hinanau sumendalu ya tiha tuñgu` kau u birague` tatte lalala`.

Magahet na kada na tiempu hu kanta este na sunidu hu hahassu i chalan iya hame antes. Bendidu i lugat hagas guma`. Ti hoñgiyon na disposision gi un` riku na lugat `nai man-mafañagu ham todus. Hagas hu tuñgu` bai` gu`ot pot interes todun.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brief history of hospital structure in America vs the CNMI

Editor's Note: Due to its length, the following letter to the editor is being published in three sections.

Last of a three-part series

The American Hospital Association’s Center for Health Care Governance provides governance resources to over 5,000 member organizations. Their mission is to bring about excellence and accountability in hospital governance. By the way, they are governed by a board.

In the case of CHCC, the board of directors’ powers is legislated by a poorly written public law known as P.L. 16-51 rather than articles of association, which would be known as hospital bylaws. It is a misfit in the typical American hospital system as for some reason the authors of P.L. 16-51 put a governor-appointed CEO in charge of the only hospital in the CNMI, the only place that has an operating room.

In my case, the medical staff credentialing body chairman failed to uphold the rules of the hospital bylaws, even though PL 16-51 mandates that the hospital adopt the bylaws it itself wrote. The director of medical affairs failed to uphold them in the same way. The CEO likewise failed in still the same way.

Critics could say that they were justified. Critics could point to the Board of Trustees as being advisory only, even though PL 16-51 lists areas where they are fiduciary. The AG said that the Board has no authority to direct the CEO. Likewise, I submit that the CEO has no authority to direct the Board on those matters that it is fiduciary, such as physician credentialing. I ask is there ever a justification to work outside of the legal system by a government employee?

The CEO and Director of Medical Affairs have not shown up to board meeting after meeting, and refuse to be transparent to them in such matters. Again in my case, I am irrelevant. It is the process that matters. It is the American way of government “for the people and by the people”. My case is not the only case that will likely seek justice in the courts. I submit that the issue at hand is not about hospital revenue. It is about moral leadership and a reckoning, and who oversees conflicts when they arise between the medical and administrative arms of a hospital, especially, when the CEO has no prior experience as being such for any hospital anywhere.

One governor appoints one CEO and doesn’t want to change the system; what would Franklin, Morris, Adams and Washington have done with PL 16-51? Is secrecy more important than transparency within the government? Why do we have a congress and senate? Why did the CNMI join and become brothers and sisters of the United States of America. What types of freedoms should we hold true while turning a blind eye to others? What did those soldiers die for? What does your religion teach you? These are all questions that we should be asking ourselves.

Even though it is my goal here to educate the public and offer an opinion as to why I think the CHCC system will not work until its governance is corrected, I want to clearly convey that though typically management sets the tone of a corporation from the top down, this is not the case at CHCC. The nursing staff is among the best that I have seen anywhere, largely because most of them have a 4 year degree versus a typical 2 year degree on the mainland. The medical doctors are superb but many of them handle as much as 45 patients and keep their heads down. The staff in the support services and offices are likewise excellent and almost all of the above people conveyed to me that they wish for change. If they had a new strong moral leader, they would follow. I feel it in my heart.

Many modern economists believe that the hospital employed model for physicians will eventually implode. I feel strongly that the direction for the CNMI should be through diversification. For security of health care services, future added services and just plain patient controlled options, more opportunities should be opened to attract physician into private practices in the CNMI. How can this be done with the “one governor appointing one CEO model”?

Tinian and Rota should receive equal medical access and care. When I arrive in September I would like have an orthopedic schedule and x-ray facility on each of these two islands. Do you know who controls those medical care directions now, i.e. the public health department functions? All comments and criticisms are open for discussion. After all we are all brothers and sisters of this beautiful democracy. Either way, let your senators and congressmen know how you feel. Be a part of the process. Your forefathers gave a lot for you to have that right!

Grant Walker, MD

Board Certified and Spine Fellowship Trained Orthopedic Surgeon Idaho

Noel Reyes is 95 percent right. Listen to him.

Thanks for your *Saipan Tribune* letter of June 24. Two casinos are better. Let the competition begin. I will bet BS drops out if the commission grants both licenses, though they can only survive if they have an exclusive. The good news is that the voters have a chance this fall to really do something about the cycle of corruption and ineptness that has pervaded politics and dumbed down our government for the past 36 years. Look past your niño, uncle or whatever and use the Internet to study what each candidate has done in their life, both professionally and personally. I see signs with a picture and a “please vote for me” on the roadside. I ask why? What have

Get your priorities straight!

“The vicious hardship is ubiquitous—could be seen everywhere—throughout the CNMI. It’s all about lapses in leadership from A-Z. “We the people” are the victims!”

Yes sir, how much more are we going to allow ourselves to dig our graves deeper? Our people are suffering daily and at the same time we look the other way.

Last month, a dear CNMI retiree elderly summoned me to his house prior to his death. He requested for me to provide lighting to his house for he was tired of having a dark house. Several days later, my dear friend passed and I was near his bedside. As I ponder who he had left behind, I was struck with anger toward our so-called local government and empathy toward the family of our departed brother. Why was there enough money to fund the Northern Mariana Descent group? Our social programs are in disarray within our island chain and at the same time we have a hundred thousand dollars appropriated for issues not affecting our underprivileged citizens. We lack a transit system to help our working poor. We have households that are living without electricity and water. Kids are forced to study their school works and read books under the streetlights.

Our dearest honorable governor and Saipan delegation, who voted to appropriate the hundred thousand dollars for the Northern Mariana Descent Corp., please get your priorities straight when it comes to helping our local people. The money could have been used for seed money to benefit people like my departed brother. He was a CNMI retiree; his family were one of the victims of your oversight when it comes to bettering our social programs throughout our island chain.

As a society, are we going to continue to ignore our underprivileged citizens in the CNMI? Are we creating future generation of failures for not providing for their social needs today? Our failure today will cost us dearly in the future. The number game at our Legislature has to come to a stop and we need to come up with solutions to better our unfortunate people.

Segundo Castro

Marpo Valley, Tinian






Gary DuBrall

Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81 ▼80
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79

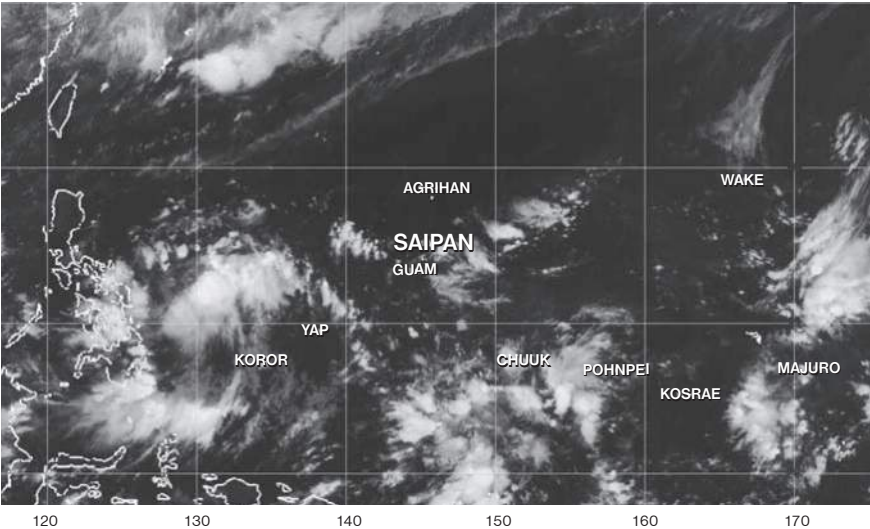
Around The Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲60 ▼57
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲90 ▼68
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼80
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼63
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲59 ▼49
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼69
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼68
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼59
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼67
Rome	Showers	▲77 ▼65
Salem	Showers	▲73 ▼54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼63
Tokyo	Showers	▲78 ▼69
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼70

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:57 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
6:55 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:26 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.3 Feet
9:28 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough undulates eastward from a weak circulation centered northwest of Koror at 10N130E through weak circulations centered just west of Chuuk at 8N150E and southwest of Majuro at 5N168E to beyond the date line at 8N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the circulation northwest of Koror are found northwest of Koror and Yap or west of a line from 17N130E to 13N140E to 10N130E. Similar weather is also present southwest of Koror or west of a line from 6N130E to 5N133E to 1N130E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the Chuuk circulation are occurring across Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei states within 175 miles of a line from 3N145E to 5N156E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the circulation southwest of Majuro are located within 200 miles of 4N168E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the trough are occurring southeast of Majuro within 110 miles of a line from 5N175E to 2N179E. An upper-level low is centered northeast of Wake Island at 22N171E. Divergent upper-level winds to the south of the low are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Majuro between 10N and 16N from 170E to 175E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:44 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	5:33 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	6:23 AM	7:27 PM
Sunday	7:13 AM	8:11 PM
Monday	8:01 AM	8:53 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Hunter: OGA applicable to lawmakers

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Open Government Act as it applies to the Legislature is constitutional, according to activist Glen D. Hunter.

Hunter, through counsel Jennifer Dockter, asserted that while it is true that the CNMI Constitution grants the Legislature authority to promulgate its rules of procedure, this right is not absolute.

Dockter said Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the Commonwealth Lottery Commission, the CNMI government, and other co-defendants in Hunter's lawsuit do not actually identify which provisions they believe offend the Constitution, but presumably seek to strike down a statute that makes the OGA applicable to the Legislature.

Dockter defended the constitutionality of OGA in Hunter's opposition to Inos and co-defendants' motion to dismiss Hunter's lawsuit.

Hunter is suing the government, Inos, the Lottery Commission, Senate President Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan), House Speaker Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), and Reps. Rafael S. Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Felicidad T. Ogumoro

(Cov-Saipan), for allegedly violating OGA in the passing of casino law.

In defendants Inos, Lottery Commission, and the CNMI government's motion to dismiss, assistant attorney general Reena Patel asserted, among other things, that the popular initiative making the CNMI Open Government Act applicable to the Legislature is unconstitutional.

Patel asserted that OGA does not apply to the Legislature because voter initiatives are subject to constitutional scrutiny.

House Speaker DeLeon Guerrero, and Reps. Demapan and Ogumoro joined the government's motion to dismiss, arguing that the House is protected by legislative immunity.

Senate President Torres, filed a motion to dismiss, arguing that OGA does not apply to the Senate based on a lack of subject matter jurisdiction and because the OGA's legislative provisions are unconstitutional because they are superseded by Senate Rules, and that he is protected by legislative immunity.



Hunter

In Hunter's opposition to dismiss filed in court on Monday, Dockter said the defendants presumably believe that all of the requirements of the OGA are unconstitutional as applied to the Legislature because the Legislature has the authority to promulgate its own rules of procedure.

Dockter pointed out that none of the defendants direct the Superior Court to the more relevant portion of the same section in the constitution, which demands that legislative and committee meetings be open to the public.

Dockter said statutes are presumed valid absent a clear constitutional violation and defendants have not met their burden.

She said the OGA Legislative Provisions do not conflict with the legislature's right to create (and subsequently suspend every time they are in session) their own procedural rules.

The lawyer said despite defendants' failure to meet their burden and mischaracterization of the issue, the OGA Legislative Provisions are harmonious with the constitutional mandate for public meetings and enforce an equally important democrat-

ic principle that is clearly engrained in the Commonwealth's constitution.

Dockter said the OGA Legislative Provisions and the constitution's public meeting requirement are not in conflict and must be interpreted harmoniously.

She said the same "people" who drafted the constitution, drafted the OGA, and drafted the 2009 initiative demanding the transparency of the legislature.

"To conclude that the OGA Legislative Provisions conflict with the 'intent' of the framers of the constitution call for public meetings is nonsensical," she said.

Dockter said if the Legislature complies with the OGA Legislative Provisions, they will necessarily be complying with the Constitution's public meet-

ing mandate.

"As such, the laws are harmonious and the OGA Legislative Provisions must stand," she pointed out.

On representation issue of the Office of the Attorney General in this case, Dockter said the Attorney General does not have constitutional authority to defend violations of law: The AG is supposed to defend the law and prosecute violations thereof.

In this case, Dockter said the AG is not representing the legislators who are charged with violations of CNMI law.

She said instead, the AG has come forward and gratuitously sought to strike down a CNMI law on behalf of the other defendants.

"The AG, as the chief legal officer of the Commonwealth

should share in the interest of plaintiff in ensuring that the law was complied with but instead, the AG is quick to dismiss the validity of the law and defend a violation thereof," she said.

"The reality is this: The Casino Law, and its disreputable inception is the poster child for the awesome necessity of the OGA," she said.

Dockter said the OGA Legislative Provisions were demanded by the people who now turn to the court for its enforcement.

"The fact that the governor, the attorney general, and elected members of congress wish to dismantle the law when it became inconvenient and hide behind inapplicable legislative immunity does nothing more than strengthen plaintiff's call for justice," she said.

Best Sunshine meets with DPS Fire Division

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An executive of Best Sunshine International Ltd. met with the Department of Public Safety's Fire Division last week to discuss a possible partnership once an integrated resort is built on Saipan.

According to Best Sunshine chief operating officer Terence Tay, he met with DPS Fire chief Thomas M. Manglona to talk about what he called a "controlled environment" that will guarantee the safety and security of the resort's guests in case of fire and other emergencies.

"We have to be comfortable with what the local government can provide for us and how we can work with them and make their jobs easier. For example, can we get up to the 10th floor and extract that person? Right now we

can't do that. How do we get those resources to ensure that we can service your needs? It boils down to money," Manglona said.

Manglona noted the lack of proper equipment as the biggest issue and that the vehicles they have are over 10 years old.

According to the DPS representative, having an interrelated relationship between private and public sectors in terms of specific things is a "win-win" situation for both parties.

Tay told DPS representatives, including Manglona, that one way to go about this is to upgrade along the way.

"Whether through whatever

institute you can subsidize their education, it's scholarship, and afterwards they can get promoted. We need people to rise up the ranks, the career progression," Tay said.

The DPS representative told Tay that his company can also perhaps offer online education.

"It would be more accessible cause we really just don't have the time. We need that dollar to back it up. It is all family here, especially since it's a

small country. If we were to fit in the community chest then that's a lot of money to begin with," the DPS representative said.

Best Sunshine is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hong Kong Stock Exchange-listed Imperial Pacific International Holdings also known as Imperial Pacific.

Imperial Pacific's proposal for the CNMI is for a resort destination that offers a "kaleidoscope of attractions and amenities." These include, among others, high-end hotel rooms and villas, a luxurious spa, world-class themed entertainment, international brand retail, health and aesthetics facilities, a place for meetings, incentives, conventions, exhibitions, and a casino.

» **Possible partnership through 'controlled environment'**



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happiest 14th birthday Ley-anna Marie Cabrera. God has blessed our family with a wonderful daughter/sister like you. No matter how many birthdays come and go, you'll always be our big baby girl. Enjoy your day. We love you forever! Love always Mom, Dad, Tun, DJ, and especially your sisters!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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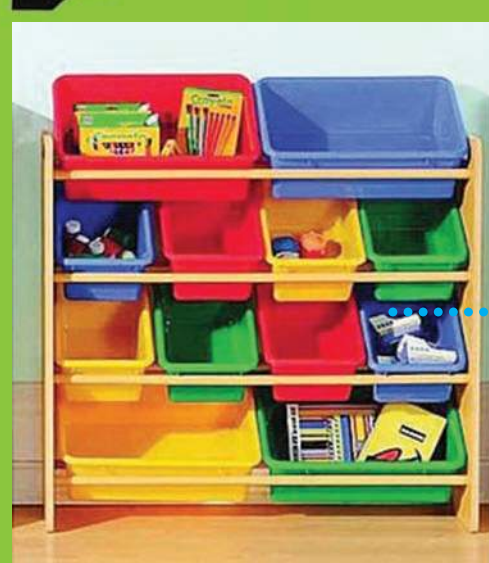
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Essential Home Bath Towels
\$5⁹⁵



Husky 5 Piece Metric Universal Ratchet with Ratchet Set
\$39⁹⁵



Husky HD Welded Steel Industrial Shelving
\$269⁹⁵



Ridgid 14 Gallon Wet/Dry Vac with Bonus Attachments
\$169⁹⁵



Kids Character Design Hard Case Carry On Luggage
\$25⁹⁵



Superstar Baby Tricycle
\$25⁹⁵



Sportscraft Jumbo Utility Wagon
\$139⁹⁵



Ninja Kitchen Pulse System **\$129⁹⁵** Mr. Coffee 12 Cup Switch Coffee Maker Black **\$29⁹⁵**



Igloo Glide Rider 110 Quart Cooler with Extended Handle **\$119⁹⁵** Coleman 2 Gallon Beverage Dispenser **\$29⁹⁵**



10x12 Instant Canopy **\$79⁹⁵** Multi Purpose Blue Water Proof Tarp 16x12 Foot **\$23⁹⁵**



Craftsman 23 Inch Tool Box **\$24⁹⁵** Craftsman 94 Piece Mechanics Tool Set with Carrying Case **\$65⁹⁵**



Weedeater Gas Powered Lawn Mower **\$269⁹⁵** Plus Start Battery Charger **\$29⁹⁵**



Samsung PDP 43 Inch HD TV **\$699⁹⁵**



RCA 46 Inch LED HD TV **\$699⁹⁵**



Canon Pixma MG2420 Printer, Copier, Scanner **\$79⁹⁵**



Impress Steam Iron 12.95 **\$12⁹⁵** Kenmore 12 Inch Table Fan **\$29⁹⁵**



V Tech Cordless Phone Single with Caller ID **\$26⁹⁵**



Wahl Combo Pro 14 Piece Hair Trimming Kit **\$25⁹⁵**



Goosner UHT Milk Whole And 2% **\$18⁹⁵** Micronesia Star Calrose Rice 15lb. **\$10⁹⁵**



Comfort Quest Single Air Bed with Pump **\$24⁹⁵**



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COTA staff completes FTA training

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority Environmental and Sustainability Management System Core Team has recently completed their fourth and final session on training under the Federal Transit Administration ESMS in Virginia.

According to COTA administrator Tom Camacho, he and four other staff attended the training and had begun since early 2013 and that this was the last session.

According to Camacho, the FTA established the core team category and requisites such as official capacity and background of staffs were the reason they were selected to be a part of the five-member team.

FTA funded the training through a contract with the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the State University that is located at Virginia Tech Facility, Double Tree Hotel and Conference Center in Roanoke, Virginia.

Camacho said that the result of the training and COTA being chosen was on his part in submitting his interest and application for the FTA in 2013.

"Which resulted to being selected as one of the 10 transit agencies," Camacho said.

COTA's newest ESMS team is committed to operating an effective system as part of an "integrated framework" for

sustainable environmental stewardship. Camacho said that they will comply with the appropriate environmental and energy statutes, regulations, and executive orders.

COTA's ESMS team is integrated with the Environmental Protection Agency's mission to protect human health and safeguard the environment.

"The first actual day started with announcements, homework progress report or presentation of each team's homework for goals and targets taught in workshop three," Camacho said.

Camacho also said that the regular training day included the team reports and that CNMI team was the first to present.

The first session started on August 2013, second was on November 2013, third was on February 2014, and the final of the sessions was on June 2014.

According to Camacho the ESMS is a set of processes and practices that enables an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency.

"This is so true and timely since COTA and the CNMI currently operates a Paratransit system then by 2015, COTA's state-of-the-art vehicle and

maintenance facility will be built followed by the launching of the first-ever Saipan Fixed-Flex Route system, expansion of Rota and Tinian transit system and possibly in the very near future," he said.

Camacho also said that should a feasibility study recommends that a ferry system is a viable operation in the CNMI or between Guam and CNMI, COTA will secure federal financial assistance to buy the needed and appropriate ocean-going vessels and terminal facilities if needed.

"However, operating expenses will come from FTA, local dedicated funding sources and/or private or public partnership," he said.

Camacho also said that on October of this year and February 2015 a certified "ISO 14001" standard auditor, Bob Herbert from Virginia Tech will travel here to the CNMI to conduct a gap and final audit of COTA's ESMS plan and fence lines.

"We each take personal responsibility to protect and enhance our local communities. We will promptly report all incidents and unsafe conditions to COTA emergency services," Camacho said.

"Environmental stewardship is and must be an integral part

» **Certified auditor will visit this Oct. and Feb. 2015**

PSS completes instructional technology training

The CNMI Public School System Instructional Technology Endorsement Program Cohort #2 has completed their year-long training. The training involved five courses worth 45 hours each and yearlong CITW with Technology.

The incentives for completing the training are MacBook Air laptops, tools, resources, and software to be used in the classroom.

Instructors for courses include Andy Kerr of McREL, Instructional Technology, Program coordinator Jeani-

ffer Cubangbang, and Cohort 1 participants who completed the program. They are building capacity within CNMI PSS and raising student achievement.

PWT data has shown an increase in technology use by students and the teachers who participated in the Instructional Technology endorsement program, as compared to those who didn't.

Due to the latest training's success, PSS next school year will offer four cohorts the same opportunity. (PSS)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of the CNMI PSS Instructional Technology Endorsement Program Cohort #2 pose for a group photo.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Teachers of the CNMI PSS Instructional Technology Endorsement Program Cohort #2 pose for a photo.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program FY 2015 State Plan is available for review and public comment from June 23, 2014 to June 27, 2014 (Monday to Friday). Interested members of the general public may review the FY 2015 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Saipan, upper Navy Hill, Building N-25. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than July 3, 2014.

/s/Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer

/s/Carmen C. Cabrera
WIC Program Administrator



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



The Non-Communicable Disease Bureau under the
Division of Public Health will be conducting a

Public Hearing

regarding the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

- Date: June 26, 2014
- Time: 6:00pm
- Place: Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Cafeteria



Open to the Public

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY DIVISION

2014 Summer Youth Employment Training Program Qualifiers

Work Schedule: July 7 - August 1, 2014

2014 SYETP SAIPAN QUALIFIERS

NAME	JOB TITLE	COMPANY/AGENCY	ORIENTATION & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
1 ADA, Kaisha Lynn	Clerk Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
2 ADA, Kealani Beatrice	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
3 ADA, Nicholas Andrew	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garaapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
4 ADERKEROI, Francia Onail D.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DILNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
5 AGUILO, Ramon Jose R.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DILNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
6 AGUILO, Brianna Lynn B.	Cashier Trainee	Ace Hardware San Vicente	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
7 ALARZAR, Sharmaine Rose M.	AC & Refrigeration Sales Rep Trainee	Chong's Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
8 ALDAN, Anthony Joseph P.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Power Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
9 AMANUO, Trol	Animal Health Technician	DILNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
10 AMIN, Erick Joseph M.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
11 ANDY, Myron Jordan	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garaapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
12 ANSAY, Faith Rose Y.	File Clerk Trainee	Bank of Saipan	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
13 ANUA, Kenty	Clerk Trainee	CNMI Judiciary-Law Revision Commission	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
14 BABAUTA, Veronnie Ann S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
15 BABAUTA, Versalli R.	Parole Office Aide Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
16 BABAUTA, Vinac Remea S.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNMI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
17 BASIENTE, Bryan John	Housekeeping Coordinator Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
18 BENAVENTE, Ji	Compliance Technician Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
19 BORJA, Antonia F.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
20 BORJA, Lucia H.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Financial Accounts & Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
21 CABRERA, Alejandro Andres B.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Capital Hotel & Beach Garden	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
22 CABRERA, Sheryl E.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
23 CAMACHO, Leana Pilar V.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities-AT Program	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
24 CASTRO, Margaret J.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
25 CEPEDA, John Peter A.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DILNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
26 DELON GUERRERO, Lee Mark G.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Procurement & Supply	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
27 DIAZ, Davie Michael B. II	Office Clerk Trainee	Department of Corrections	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
28 ENCABO, Frederick R.	Stocker Trainee	Ace Hardware Susupe	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
29 SEFOW, Manny	Stocker Trainee	Ace Hardware San Vicente	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
30 ESNER, Minisov Tamison C.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
31 ESNER, Kynsey C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
32 FAISAO, Jonavan Christopher C.	Parole Office Aide Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
33 FEJERAN, Donnie Vince S.	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Contract Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
34 FEJERAN, Javiy Benigno S.	Engineering Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
35 FRITZ, Ashley Norma H.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
36 GAROE, Rocco O.	Scale House Attendant Trainee	DPW-Solid Waste Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
37 HELSON, Resty D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPM-Administrative Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
38 I.O. Littegar Mirco	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DPM-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
39 INS, David C.	HR Clerk Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
40 ISKAWA, Gregory L.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-Enforcement Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
41 JIMMOTON, Manny P.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Passport Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
42 KAIPIAT, Aloisia BethMarie	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (CK Post)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
43 KAIPIAT, Carmenita Lupe	Receptionist Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
44 KAIPIAT, Christine Mary W.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Office of the Secretary	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
45 KAIPIAT, Paul Joe W.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities-AT Program	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
46 KREMEM, Angela H.	Outreach Assistant Trainee	Commonwealth Cancer Association	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
47 KREMEM, Mieke Reikonin H.	Environmental Trainee	BECC-Safe Drinking Water Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
48 LANGU, Richiko N.	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garaapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
49 LEON GUERRERO, Nathan Drew H.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DILNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
50 LIMES, Scottie L.	Cultural Program Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
51 LIZAMA, Duanealyn Loraine D.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
52 LIZAMA, Trine Luisa A.	Receptionist Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
53 MALTY, Shanna Lynn	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Property Management Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
54 MARAS, Russko RJ E.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPS-Technical Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
55 MARTIN, Gerard C.	Receptionist Trainee	DOF-Finance & Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
56 MENCHOR, Macilene M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Celinas Enterprises	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
57 MENDIOLA, Chelsy Lynn J.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Passport Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
58 METTAA, Jessmin O.	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garaapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
59 METTAA, Jim Gary O.	Clerk Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
60 MORI, Tahira Jai N.	Accounting Clerk Assistant Trainee	CNMI Judiciary-Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
61 MUNGWATH, Rochelle S.L.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
62 NGIRACHELONG, Delsita Ilor	Office Clerk Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
63 NIMWES, Mary Gin	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Power Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
64 NIRO, Deiny	Clerk Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
65 NOBLE, Marie Angelica T.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPW-Administrative Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
66 NORITA, Atron N.	Animal Health Technician	DILNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
67 NORITA, Bud Jason N.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNMI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
68 OMAR, Damian Jessy	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Warehouse Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
69 ONGUNGUNG, Cherry Jean K.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPL-Real Estate Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
70 ONYPPY, Brandyn M.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPL-Real Estate Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
71 PAGADUAN, Jasmin S.	Bank Clerk Trainee	Bank of Saipan	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
72 PAGADUAN, Olexa S.	Office Clerk Trainee	Department of Corrections	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
73 PALACIOS, Stacy Nicole L.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNMI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
74 PANGELINAN, Junnie Tiane T.	Clerk Trainee	DPL-Administration Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
75 PANGELINAN, Lordina Gineanne H.	Clerk Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
76 PAULUS, Jerhryn T.	Office Clerk Trainee	Capital Hotel & Beach Garden	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
77 PEREDO, Crystal Maelynn DLG.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
78 PETER, F Fred D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
79 PETER, Tremy	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Engineering Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
80 PETER, Marny	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Financial Accounts & Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
81 PUA, Alvin James L. II	Community Development Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
82 REBUNOG, Lance Bernard H.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
83 RIOS, Estelana A.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Warehouse Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
84 SABLAIN, Victoria Tinag D.	Computer Operator/Data Entry Trainee	DOF-Division of Electronic Data Processing	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
85 SAGUDO, Marlin E.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Celinas Enterprises	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
86 SANCHEZ, Refelene Carmen	Front Desk Clerk	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
87 SANCHEZ, Jerica Jessica P.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Office of the Secretary	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
88 SEMENS, Kavika D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
89 SIECH, Kasper	Animal Health Technician	DILNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
90 SIECH, Nadeen	Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Development Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
91 SINOUNOU, Francisco J.	Motor Rewinding Trainee	Armtech Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
92 SUDA, Scottson K.	Pre-Shop Attendant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
93 TABILISMA, Ashley T.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
94 TAITANO, Wilma Jean I.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
95 TAMAN, Derek S.	Environmental Trainee	BECC-Safe Drinking Water Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
96 TAMAN, Joseph L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Cancer Association	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
97 TAULE, Christian William O.	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
98 TENORIO, Kyle Steve Asalmal P.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
99 TINSOWMAN, Brandon Kyle K.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPW-Technical Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
100 TOMEL, Rodlee O.	CADD Inspector Trainee	Henry K. Pangelinan & Associates, Inc.	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
101 VILLAGOMEZ, Alisha Jeanne E.	Pre-Shop Attendant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
102 WBLA, John Rose N.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Passport Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
103 WEIBACHER, Hilary Bryan	AC & Refrigeration Technician Trainee	Chong's Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
104 WEITA, Jenny Loraine W.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-DISHA	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
105 WEITA, William W. Jr.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-Employment Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
106 AISEK, Jonder M.	Ice Plant Helper Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
107 ALARZAR, John Ralph M.	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
108 ALDAN, John Vincent P.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
109 ATALIG, Taine	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Academic Programs & Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
110 ATAN, Afterson B.	Data Entry Clerk Trainee	Medical Referral Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
111 ATAN, Atan B.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
112 BABAUTA, Crystal Kay B.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Club Elan	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
113 BABAUTA, Daviel B.	Cashier Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
114 BABAUTA, Gianna S.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
115 BABAUTA, Jacob R.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor-SA for Legislative Review (SAPLR)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
116 BABAUTA, Joana B.	HR Intern Trainee	Hyatt Regency Resort-HR	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
117 BALBIN, Nevaena Pinaluluzh P.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
118 BALBIN, Nikia Jay P.	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
119 BAYOL, Edwyn Mervin G.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
120 BILLY, Billy John A.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
121 RONAN, Jaime Vashlyn O.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Human Resource Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
122 BORJA, Britney Ann C.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
123 BORJA, Edmond H.	Media Services Aide Trainee	NMC-Media Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
124 BORJA, Imacio Jose H.	Gym Trainee	NMC-Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
125 BUKSIS, Florens Nafaman C. II	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
126 BUNUSEK, Jang J.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
127 CABRERA, Brandon Joe E.	Terminal Documentation Clerk Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
128 CABRERA, Dorcy Ann C.	Kiosk Help Agent Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
129 CAMACHO, Devannine Nicole O.	Cashier Trainee	Mariana Resort & Spa	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
130 CAMACHO, Isabel Rosa R.	Front Desk/Bell Hop Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
131 CAMACHO, Joshua Michael Jr. A.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Office of Senator Ray N. Yumil	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
132 CAMACHO, Kayla Marie R.	Consumer Merchandiser Trainee	Marianas Pacific Distributors (MARPAIC)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
133 CAMACHO, Kianah R.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
134 CARDINO, Jeanette B.	IT Trainee	NMC-Computer Lab	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
135 CARDINO, Mariceth Joy B.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Liberal Arts Department	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
136 CELIS, Nalasha Daena	Research Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
137 CHENOR, Samantha E.	Administrative Clerk	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
138 CHIPWELONG, Tanya	Receptionist Trainee	Office of Vocational Rehabilitation	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
139 DELA CRUZ, Eran Abigail T.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Office of Instructional Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
140 DELOS SANTOS, Elizabeth M.	Office Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
141 DIONISIO, JulieAnn Marie	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
142 DIONISIO, Keonli Kirstine	Office Clerk Trainee	McDonald's	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center

NAME	JOB TITLE	COMPANY/AGENCY	ORIENTATION & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
143 DIONISIO, Lucio Agino Jr.	Sales Merchandiser Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
144 EFRAN, Hector Junior C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
145 ENCABO, Honorio R. II	Sales Clerk Trainee	Joeten Department Store (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
146 FERNANDEZ, Marjane F.	HR Clerk Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
147 FERNANDEZ, Mely Ann F.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Holy Angel Child Day & Night Care Learning Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
148 FITAL, Florence L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Law Office of Robert T. Torres	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
149 GEORGE, Nimeis S.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor-SA for Legislative Review (SAPLR)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
150 GEORGE, Zepher A.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Member Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
151 GRAMADA, John Joshua A.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Joeten Kagan	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
152 HELSON, Melvin D.	Research Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
153 IGOSMAR, Leony Jane	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Member Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
154 ISKAWA, Rodeschor Jr. T.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Academic Programs & Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
155 JOHN, Chayona R.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Smartstart Nurturing Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
156 JOHNNY, Jay Junior K.	Jewelry Appraiser Trainee	Villagoyal Pawnshop	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
157 JONES, Janet L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
158 JONES, Jesslyn L.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
159 KAIPIAT, Mariano Jayson W.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-School of Education	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
160 KAIPIAT, Paulsen-Malona W.	Office Clerk Trainee	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
161 LANYO, Jimmy Tito Jr. M.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
162 LIMES, Sammy Lee L.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Bell Desk	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
163 LIZAMA, Aenes Carmen C.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
164 LIZAMA, Bryanna Marie B.	Data Entry Clerk Trainee	Medical Referral Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
165 LIZAMA, Jack David D.	Stocker Trainee	Joeten Market (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
166 MACENA, Rickie Ann K.	Customer Service Representative Trainee	Saipan Shipping Co., Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
167 MARAS, Kyeven F.	Marketing Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
168 MENCHOR, Mackson M.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Communication Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
169 MORI, Tanisha Julie N.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Holy Angel Child Day & Night Care Learning Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
170 MUNGWATH, Rachelle L.	Arrival Agent Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
171 MARTIN, Nephine M.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Business Department	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
172 NOBLE, Maria Abigail T.	Office Clerk Trainee	Law Office of Robert T. Torres	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
173 NORICH, Agatha Christine W.	Administrative Aide Trainee	NMC-Information Technology Director's Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
174 NORICH, Keystone KN	Information Services Aide	NMC-Information Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
175 NORITA, Dennis N.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
176 NORITA, Rose Marie N.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Pinnacle Staffing	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
177 OLUPOMAR, Rufina Fidelia F.	Operations Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
178 OSCAR, Nancy A.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Lavi Duty Free	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
179 OSTONAL, Edgar Joseph F.	Lobby Host Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
180 PALACIOS, Dustin Jesse M.	IT Trainee	NMC-Computer Lab	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
181 PALACIOS, Shannon Marie L.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
182 PANGELINAN, Elysha Jaylen C.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Mariana Resort & Spa	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
183 PANGELINAN, Nathaniel Anthony	Delivery Helper Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
184 PASION, Rachelle Jean R.	Office Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-TII Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
185 PAULIS, Jasmer T.	Technical Field Inspector Trainee	SFSM CNMI, LLC	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
186 PETER, Mfred	Front Desk/Bell Hop Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
187 PETER, Valery Fred	Stocker Trainee	Joeten Market (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
188 PIALUR, Suramram M.	Jewelry Appraiser Trainee	Villagoyal Pawnshop	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
189 PIALUR, Suramschigh John M.	Car Wash & Goggles Maintenance Trainee	Triple J Saipan	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
190 PUA, Ilene Marie D.G.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Holiday Saipan Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
191 RAMANGMOU, Gilthian A.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
192 REGINO, Celso M. Jr.	Front Desk/Bell Hop Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
193 REGINO, Daniela Marie M.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
194 RIOS, Maanolia S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
195 RUDELPH, Rajella M.	Library Aide Trainee	Joeten Kyou Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
196 SAGINO, Zeki Daniel	Warehouse Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
197 SANTOS, Joovanni Daniel L.	Information Services Aide	NMC-Information Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
198 SANCHEZ, Richelle Annette	Summer Academy Assistant Trainee	NMC-CAC	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
199 SECIA, Nimes	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
200 SIDA, Roxanne J.	Data Entry Clerk Trainee	Medical Referral Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
201 TAMAN, Randy S. Jr.	Housekeeper Assistant Trainee	Holiday Saipan Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
202 TANGIRO, Kevin Scott Asepschigh P.	Arrival Agent Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
203 THEY, Finson O.	Warehouse Trainee	Joeten Wholesale (SDC)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
204 THEY, Itheyon O.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Joeten Department Store (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
205 TOMEL, Romney O.	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
206 TORRES, Camille Joy C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
207 TUDELA, Javier Steve	Gym Assistant Trainee	NMC-Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
208 UNTALAN, Rebecca Marcela K	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
209 VELENA, Rachel Ann S.	Receptionist Trainee	SFSM CNMI, LLC	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
210 WEILBACHER, Bryan A. Jr.	Promotions Trainee	Marianas Pacific Distributors (MARPAIC)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center

\$35.3M Saipan airport runway rehab project still under construction

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six years after the approval of one of the biggest and major undertakings of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the completion date of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport's long-standing runway rehabilitation project is still undetermined.

The main runway rehabilitation was approved in 2009.

The project consists of rehabilitating the main runway and narrowing its width from 200 feet to 150 feet based on Federal Aviation Administration requirements, relocation of runway lights, posting of signs and markings, and restoring Runway 6/24 back to a parallel taxiway.

The Saipan airport's main runway, Runway 7/25, is over 25 years old.

Since it began renovation work on the runway, CPA has

been pushing back its completion date due to various issues and concerns. CPA's last target completion date of the project was set in December 2013 and the runway was supposed to be fully operational this fiscal year 2014.

Yesterday, CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama did not respond when inquired on what's the new target completion date for the runway project.

However, she assured that

the project continues to move forward and the ports authority continues to fully monitor the project under the guidance of FAA, which fully funded the project under its Airport Improvement Program.

"The CPA continues to monitor the progress of the project with oversight by the granting agency, the Federal Aviation Administration," Lizama said.

Lizama said the project contractor is GPPC Inc. and

the project construction manager is Hofschneider Engineering.

According to the executive director, the latest supplemental amount approved for the runway project totaled \$11,147,705 million and the overall cost to date is approximately \$35,330,376 million.

Lizama admitted that "there are issues as to the project, which requires CPA's attention and engagement with the

contractor and the construction manager."

"Hopefully these can be resolved and the project can proceed forward to completion as CPA will deal appropriately with all issues which arise during the construction period," Lizama assured yesterday.

CPA earlier said that the rehabilitation of the surface of the runway will allow another 20 years to provide a safe landing zone for the CNMI.

China's gift causes big trouble for tiny Tonga

By **NICK PERRY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga (AP)—It's almost 10 a.m., but the barista at this tiny Pacific kingdom's domestic air terminal has yet to make a single cup of coffee.

Molly Fatai says her wages at the café have been cut by a third since last year. Flights leaving for Tonga's outer islands have been halved to two or three per day, except for Sundays, when there are no flights at all.

The absent coffee-drinkers are mainly New Zealanders, the most common visitors to these remote, poor and beautiful islands. The New Zealand airline that transported many of them has packed up and left, and New Zealand's government is warning its citizens not to use the local carrier.

"The economy of Tonga has suffered quite dramatically as a result," said Stuart Perry, the general manager of Tourism Tonga.

What set off this reaction from Tonga's wealthy neighbor and longtime friend? A newer, more distant and even wealthier friend—China—and its gift of a plane.

It's a tiny skirmish in a battle for global influence with unintended consequences for this nation of just over 100,000 people.

At Tonga's main airport, built by U.S. Army contractors during World War II, maintenance crews work on the troublesome freebie: a 60-seater turboprop Xian MA-60. Chickens poke about in coarse tropical grass as Sau Tongi picks up his young son and looks through the fence onto the runway.

"I don't know what they are fixing. It's a new plane," he says. "I don't think I'm going to fly on that plane. Better to be safe."

When Tonga took delivery of the plane, worth perhaps \$20 million including spare parts and training, it prompted New Zealand company Air Chathams to leave after five years rather than face what it considered to be subsidized competition. That left Real Tonga, which operates the MA-60, as the sole domestic operator.

"It was very sad for us. We put our heart and soul into it," said Air Chathams owner and chief executive Craig Emeny.



AP
In this Wednesday, June 4, 2014 photo, fisher folk work on in shallow waters, near Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

The New Zealand government posted a travel advisory on its website, warning that MA-60 planes had been involved in several recent crashes in other countries and didn't have recognized certification. New Zealand also withheld about \$5 million in tourism aid.

"We can't just sit back and say, 'That's OK,'" New Zealand's Prime Minister John Key says of the plane's certification.

Tourists often come to Tonga seeking a more authentic experience than on more developed islands like Fiji and Tahiti. The industry is small yet makes an important contribution to the national income. Perry says those who rely on it are wondering if their businesses will survive.

Tonga has accused New Zealand of acting like a bully. It pointed out that New Zealand had not posted similar warnings for other countries operating MA-60s—something New Zealand says it will investigate. Tonga said the plane was properly certified by China and it planned to soon accept a second Chinese plane, a Harbin Y-12.

"We need all the planes we can get," said Vili Cocker, Tonga's civil aviation director. He said he didn't know of anything China wants in return.

"All I know is they are gen-

erous enough to offer these as gifts."

China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said China had provided the plane at the request of the Tongan government "as a matter of bilateral economic and technical cooperation."

"China always supports providing assistance, without political conditions, to island nations," the ministry wrote in response to questions from The Associated Press.

China said it wanted to help "accelerate economic and social development" and improve people's lives in the Pacific, none of which was directed at forming political or military alliances.

New Zealand has long provided aid to Tonga, about \$26 million a year. Australia and the U.S. also contribute. Tonga, in turn, has maintained close ties with its Western allies, sending troops to both Iraq and Afghanistan.

But while the U.S. has talked about its renewed focus on this region, its so-called Pacific pivot, China appears to have a pivot of its own.

Over recent years, China has financed and built hospitals, schools, offices and roads across Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and other Pacific islands. It has offered Mandarin lessons and scholarships to thousands of students, and has hosted and trained hun-

dreds of government officials in Beijing.

Is it about altruism, or influence? In 2011, then-U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made her view clear:

"Let's put aside the humanitarian, do-good side of what we believe in. Let's just talk straight realpolitik. We are in competition with China," she told the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "They have brought all of the leaders of these small Pacific nations to Beijing, wined them and dined them."

Since then, senior officials from both China and the U.S. have downplayed the notion they are competing in the Pacific, instead emphasizing the need to cooperate.

"There are always some people in China and the U.S. that tend to regard the other side as a chief rival or an enemy," said Wang Shaopu, director of the Center for Pan-Pacific Studies at Shanghai's Jiaotong University. "But the strategy, and the decision-makers, of both countries are trying to avoid that situation from happening."

Tonga's deeper ties with China began after 2006 when rioters sacked the capital, Nuku'alofa. Beijing offered loans with fabulous terms: 2 percent interest and deferred repayments.

Budget records show Tonga

borrowed \$118 million—one quarter of its annual economy—from China's Export-Import Bank, a commercially run bank whose interest rates are sometimes subsidized by the Chinese government as a form of international aid.

Tonga used the money to construct downtown office buildings, pave roads and even add an extension to the king's palace.

Tongan Prime Minister Lord Tu'iavakano said the loans were too good to turn down.

But not everyone was happy with the conditions. Crews from China completed much of the work, to the chagrin of Tongan tradespeople.

And now, the time to start paying back China is fast approaching. Tonga has tried and failed to have the debt forgiven. Instead, it has managed to defer principal payments until 2018, when it faces a brutal repayment schedule.

The World Bank says the repayments will have the effect of "substantially draining the government's cash balance," placing Tonga at "moderate" risk of debt distress.

There are other signs that many Tongans have mixed feelings about China's impact, such as the iron bars that fortify about a dozen small stores selling bread, canned meat and soda in

the township of Vaini.

Many of the businesses are owned by Chinese immigrants from Fujian province. The bars are there to protect them and their wares from attacks, which police say are sometimes racially motivated.

"There's a very substantial and recent population that has arrived from China and is having a major impact," says Graeme Smith, a research fellow at Australian National University's College of Asia & the Pacific. "It's frontier capitalism."

Smith says he's not convinced China has any grand designs for the Pacific region, such as securing access to tuna fisheries or minerals, as some have suggested. And he says that while China has historically used its largesse in the Pacific to compete with Taiwan for U.N. votes, relations between the two rivals have improved.

As for the plane, Tonga has asked the World Bank to take an independent look. And Perry, the tourism manager, says Tonga has also ordered some British-built BAE Jetstream-32 turboprop planes that may pick up some routes and reduce tensions.

"It's a big world," Perry says. "Hopefully we can all work together."

2 Saipan beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged two Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are Chalan Lamlau Beach and San Jose Beach.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500.

(DEQ)

Nation

Judge: No-fly list violates constitutional rights

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The U.S. government offers no adequate method for people to challenge their placement on its no-fly list, a federal judge ruled Tuesday in a case involving 13 Muslims who believe they're on the list.

U.S. District Court Judge Anna Brown found people lack

a meaningful way to challenge their placement on the list, which bars them from flying to or within the United States. She also said the 13 people who sued the government have been unconstitutionally deprived of their right to fly.

"This should serve as wakeup call to the government," said American Civil Liberties Union attorney Hina Shamsi. "This de-

cision also benefits other people wrongly stuck on the no-fly list because it affords them (an opportunity to challenge) a Kafkaesque bureaucracy."

U.S. Justice Department spokeswoman Dena Iverson said government attorneys were reviewing the decision.

Thirteen people—including four military veterans—challenged their placement on the

list in 2010.

Initially, Brown said she couldn't rule on the case. In 2012, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed and sent the case back to her. Brown ruled in August that the 13 people challenging their presence on the list had a constitutional right to travel and, on Tuesday, found the government violated that right.

"For many," Brown wrote in Tuesday's decision, "international travel is a necessary aspect of liberties sacred to members of a free society."

The judge said placement on the no-fly list turns routine travel into an "odyssey," and some of those on the list have been subjected to detention and interrogation by foreign authorities.

The no-fly list, a well-protected government secret, decides who is barred from flying at U.S. airports, and is shared with ship captains and 22 other countries. The FBI has said the list requires secrecy to protect sensitive investigations and to avoid giving terrorists clues for avoiding detection.

The no-fly list contains thousands of names and has been one of the government's most public counterterrorism tools since 9/11. It also has been one of the most condemned, with critics saying some innocent travelers have been mistaken for terrorism suspects.

The plaintiffs argued being on the list harms their reputa-

tions. Several who filed suit said they have been surrounded at airport security areas, detained and interrogated.

Brown expressed skepticism at the government's arguments in several court hearings in 2013 and earlier this year. U.S. government attorneys cautioned the judge not to engage in "policy-making" were she to rule against them.

The ruling shows Brown heeded that caution. She did not create a new procedure for those on the list to challenge their placement. Instead, Brown said the Department of Homeland Security needs to find a way to disclose to those on the list the unclassified information used to place them there.

Since much of what is used for placement is classified, Brown said the government should provide people on the list with the nature and extent of the classified information, the type of threat they pose to national security, and the ways in which they can respond to the charges.

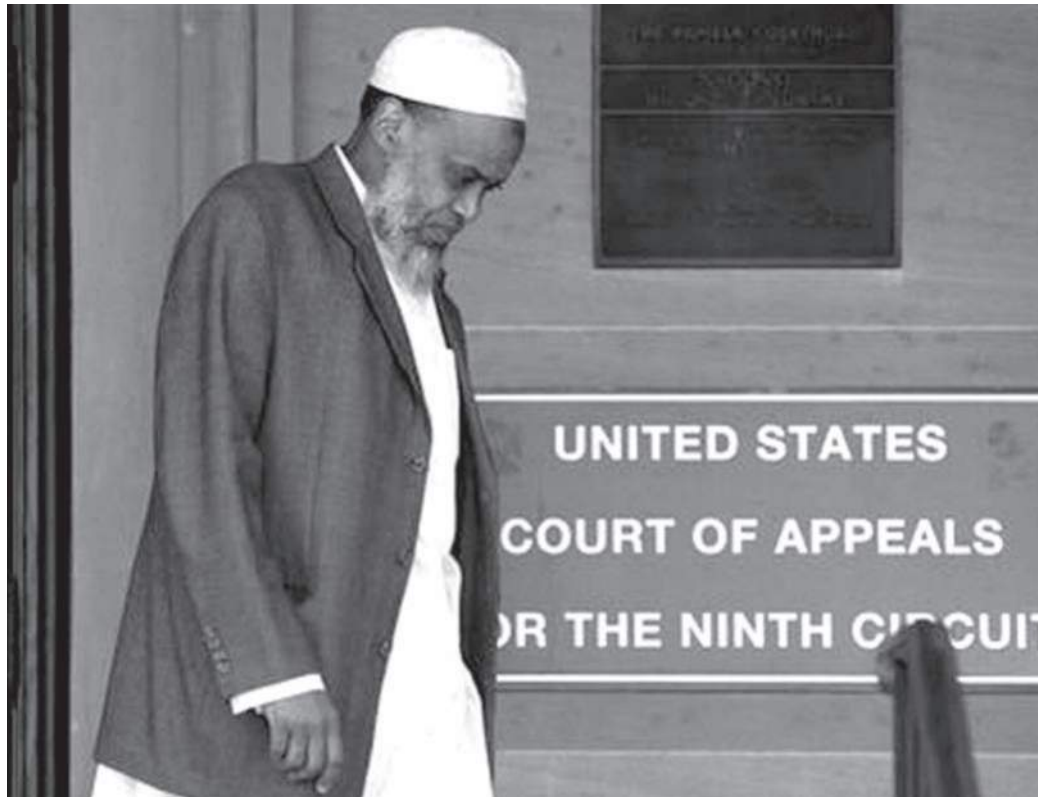
ACROSS THE NATION

Cochran wins Miss. runoff, edges tea partyer

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a remarkable political turnaround, six-term Sen. Thad Cochran of Mississippi edged out tea party-backed challenger Chris McDaniel Tuesday night in a bruising, costly Republican runoff that pitted Washington clout against insistence on conservative purity. With 99 percent of precincts reporting, Cochran had 51 percent to McDaniel's 49 percent, three weeks after McDaniel had beaten the veteran lawmaker in the initial primary round but had fallen short of the majority needed for nomination. In the three-week dash to the runoff, Cochran and his allies had highlighted his seniority while McDaniel had argued that Cochran was part of a blight of federal overspending. In a brief speech to supporters, Cochran thanked those who helped him secure a "great victory. ... It's a group effort. It's not a solo. And so we all have a right to be proud of our state tonight." A defiant McDaniel offered no explicit concession, but instead complained of "dozens of irregularities" that he implied were due to Cochran courting Democrats and independents.

KFC: No proof worker asked scarred child to leave

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—Fried chicken chain KFC said two different investigations have not found any evidence that an employee asked a 3-year-old girl and family members to leave because injuries she suffered in a pit bull mauling disturbed customers. KFC spokesman Rick Maynard said Tuesday the company considered the matter closed after an internal investigation by the franchise restaurant in Jackson and an independent probe. Maynard said the company would honor its commitment to donate \$30,000 to help with medical bills for Victoria Wilcher. "Like the rest of America, the KFC family has been moved by the story of Victoria's injuries and recovery," Maynard said. "We hope everyone keeps Victoria in their thoughts and prayers. She will certainly be in ours."



This May 11, 2012 file photo, Portland Imam Mohamed Sheikh Abdirahman Kariye, who is one of 15 men who say their rights were violated because they are on the U.S. government's no-fly list, leaves the United States Court of Appeals following oral arguments on the ACLU No Fly List challenge, in Portland, Ore.

Why a grim US economic picture is brightening

WASHINGTON (AP)—When the government updates its estimate Wednesday of how the U.S. economy fared last quarter, the number is pretty sure to be ugly. Horrible even.

The economy likely shrank at an annual rate of nearly 2 percent in the January-March quarter, economists estimate. That would be its bleakest performance since early 2009 in the depths of the Great Recession.

So why aren't economists,

businesses or investors likely to panic?

Because most agree that the economy last quarter was depressed by temporary factors—particularly the blast of Arctic chill and snow that shuttered factories, disrupted shipping and kept Americans away from shopping malls and auto dealerships.

Since then, the picture has brightened. Solid hiring, growth in manufacturing and surging

auto sales have lifted the economy at a steady if still-unspectacular pace. That said, sluggish pay growth and a stumbling housing rebound have restrained the expansion. But the economy's recovery continues.

"We had a very bad first quarter, but the first quarter is history," says Craig Alexander, chief economist at TD Bank. "It doesn't tell you where the economy is going, which is in a direction of more strength."

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing plus experience in F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese or Korean language will be an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by September 14, 2014. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Accountant

Preferably a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in Property and Casualty Insurance, handling cashing, disbursements, receivables, payables, purchasing and general accounting procedures. Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO system, General Insurance Information System, MS Word and Excel software is an advantage. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, July 07, 2014.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.




**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB14-DPW/FHWA-105 (A-C)
 SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 08, 2014 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"PURCHASE OF SEVEN (7) DESKTOP COMPUTER UNITS AND FOUR (4) LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SECTION"
 Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.
 The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
 Secretary Of Public Works

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 Director, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-BECQ-120**

SUBMISSION: JULY 29, 2014 TIME: 2:00 P.M.
"INSTALLATION OF A TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR OFFICE TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATION FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"
 THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE 0 NOR AFTER **JUNE 26, 2014** AT THE BECO OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO christianwallace@deg.gov.mp DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.
 A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **JULY 16, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M.** IN THE 2ND FLOOR DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM (RM.205). QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. CHRISTIAN WALLACE, BECO NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO christianwallace@deg.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 18, 2014.** RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.
 THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAUJMAN
 ADMINISTRATOR, BECO

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 DIRECTOR, P&S

World

Iraqi prime minister's focus is to defend Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP)—Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki is ready to concede, at least temporarily, the loss of much of Iraq to Sunni insurgents and is instead deploying the military's best-trained and equipped troops to defend Baghdad, Iraqi officials told The Associated Press Tuesday.

Shiite militias responding to a call to arms by Iraq's top cleric are also focused on protecting the capital and Shiite shrines, while Kurdish fighters have grabbed a long-coveted oil-rich city outside their self-ruled territory, ostensibly to defend it from the al-Qaida breakaway group.

With Iraq's bitterly divided sects focused on self-interests, the situation on the ground is increasingly looking like the fractured state the Americans have hoped to avoid.

"We are facing a new reality and a new Iraq," the top Kurdish leader, Massoud Barzani, told U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday in Irbil, capital of the self-ruled Kurdish region in northern Iraq.

Two weeks after a series of disastrous battlefield setbacks in the north and west, al-Maliki is struggling to devise an ef-

fective strategy to repel the relentless advances by militants of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a well-trained and mobile force thought to have some 10,000 fighters inside Iraq. The response by government forces has so far been far short of a counteroffensive, restricted mostly to areas where Shiites are in danger of falling prey to the Sunni extremists or around a major Shiite shrine north of Baghdad.

These weaknesses were highlighted when the government tried but failed to retake Tal Afar, a mixed Shiite-Sunni city of some 200,000 that sits strategically near the Syrian border. The government claimed it had retaken parts of the city but the area remains under the control of the militants after a battle in which some 30 volunteers and troops were killed.

Government forces backed by helicopter gunships have also fought for a week to defend Iraq's largest oil refinery in Beiji, north of Baghdad, where a top military official said Tuesday that Sunni militants were regrouping for another push to capture the sprawling facility.

In the face of militant advanc-

es that have virtually erased Iraq's western border with Syria and captured territory on the frontier with Jordan, al-Maliki's focus has been the defense of Baghdad, a majority Shiite city of 7 million fraught with growing tension. The city's Shiites fear they could be massacred and the revered al-Kazimiyah shrine destroyed if Islamic State fighters capture Baghdad. Sunni residents also fear the extremists, as well as Shiite militiamen in the city, who they worry could turn against them.

The militants have vowed to march to Baghdad and the holy Shiite cities of Najaf and Karbala, a threat that prompted the nation's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, to issue an urgent call to arms that has resonated with young Shiite men.

The military's best-trained and equipped forces have been deployed to bolster Baghdad's defenses, aided by U.S. intelligence on the militants' movements, according to the Iraqi officials, who are close to al-Maliki's inner circle and spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss such sensitive issues.

Ukraine's cease-fire jeopardized by deadly attack

MOSCOW (AP)—The shaky cease-fire in Ukraine was thrown into peril Tuesday when pro-Moscow separatists shot down a Ukrainian military helicopter, killing nine servicemen.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko warned he may end the weeklong truce ahead of time. The deadly attack came a day after the rebels vowed to respect the cease-fire, which began last Friday.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, played the peacemaker, urging Ukraine to extend the truce and sit down for talks with the rebels. He also moved to rescind a parliamentary resolution authorizing him to use the Russian military in Ukraine.

Poroshenko declared the

cease-fire as part of a plan to end two months of fighting between government troops and pro-Russian insurgents in the east. The violence, which erupted after the Kremlin's lightning annexation of Crimea in March, has left hundreds dead.

The cease-fire has been repeatedly broken by sporadic clashes, and it was violated again Tuesday when rebels used a shoulder-fired missile to down a helicopter in Slovyansk, a key flashpoint in the insurgency.

Poroshenko said in a statement that the insurgents had fired on Ukrainian positions 35 times since the cease-fire was announced, and he instructed Ukrainian soldiers to fire back "without hesitation" if attacked.

"The president doesn't ex-

clude that the cease-fire could be lifted ahead of time, taking into account its constant violation by the rebels controlled from abroad," Poroshenko's office said.

It added that Poroshenko expects that his phone call, set for Wednesday, with Putin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande would lead to "practical steps by Russia to disarm and recall mercenaries from Ukraine and ensure the reliable protection of the border."

The U.S. and NATO have accused Russia of supporting the rebellion in the east with troops and weapons. Moscow has denied that, saying Russian citizens who joined the insurgents were acting on their own.

Ferry survivors return to school amid tears, grief

ANSAN, South Korea (AP)—As parents of the dead wept, more than 70 teenagers who survived a ferry sinking that killed hundreds of their schoolmates walked in a somber procession Wednesday to their first classes since the April disaster. Some of the 74 students, wearing white and black uniforms and carrying book bags, bowed their heads as they cried and walked slowly from a bus to the school entrance. Some stopped to hug the parents of their friends. Adults carried banners of encouragement. One read: "We pray the dead will rest in peace." Another simply said: "I love you." The anger, grief and deep remorse at Danwon High School in Ansan, outside of Seoul, was a reflection of what many South Koreans have felt since the April 16 sinking that left more than 300 people dead or missing. Most of the dead were students from Danwon who were on a class trip to the southern holiday island of Jeju.

Environment

Being Water Wise: Embracing a low H2O lifestyle



BAY AREA NEWS GROUP/MCT

Water conservationist Elizabeth Dougherty poses with one of her cisterns at her home in Oakland, Calif., Feb. 12, 2014.

By **DANA HULL**
THE OAKLAND TRIBUNE

OAKLAND, Calif.—While the average single-family home used 135 gallons of water per person per day last year, Elizabeth Dougherty got by with just 30 gallons. The lowest she's hit: 20 gallons a day.

In the ongoing drought, conservation-minded Dougherty epitomizes the "low-H2O" lifestyle and ranks among the most water-thrifty customers. And if some of her strategies are not for everyone—she wears her clothes at least three times before washing them—others may have wider appeal in a year when everyone is being urged to conserve.

She collects rainwater from the roof of the 1,250-square-foot North Oakland, Calif., home she shares with a housemate; the three large rain cisterns collectively hold more than 1,100 gallons, which she will use to grow vegetables this spring and summer. Her garden is filled with succulents and drought-tolerant plants. She has a low-flow toilet and "laundry-to-landscape" system to divert "graywater" from the washing machine to outdoor trees. She keeps a five-gallon bucket on hand to collect water from the shower.

"I don't even call it water anymore," said Dougherty, who has been known to get into arguments with friends after dinner parties if they leave the tap water running while washing dishes. "It's a river. This is a river flowing

out of your tap."

Dougherty, 56, has a Ph.D. in ethnography from the University of Pennsylvania and has been an advocate for sustainable living for decades. She spent two years working as a program manager for "Flex Your Power," California's statewide energy-efficiency marketing and outreach campaign. She then taught permaculture, which draws from organic farming and sustainable development, in rural Peru.

Dougherty is a fierce believer in the need for public education. She thinks people will be more inspired to conserve and reuse water if they fully understand their water's journey to their tap.

Dougherty often starts her public talks and presentations with a simple question: Where does your water come from? Many people have no idea, or they name a reservoir. "People in San Francisco say their water comes from Hetch Hetchy," she said. "It comes from the Tuolumne River, which flows into Hetch Hetchy. Water conservation starts with public education."

In her blog posts, Dougherty warns that California must make water conservation and reuse standard practice, not just a fad when drought conditions hit the headlines or become severe.

"Conservation is so simple, it's crazy," she wrote in one post. "Put a bucket in your shower to catch heat-up water and dump it in your garden or flush your toilet with it. Put a low-flow aerator on your kitchen sink and reduce in an

instant. Get that low-flow toilet you've been wanting. Call your water agency and ask for rebates on these or take advantage of existing rebates and incentives."

Toilets account for roughly 20 percent of average indoor water use. Many older models use 3.5 gallons to as much as 7 gallons per flush, or gpf. With the average person flushing at least five times a day, that quickly adds up. A 1.6 gpf toilet, which became the industry standard in the 1990s, uses about 2,900 gallons a year. Switching to a 1.28 gpf "high efficiency toilet" cuts that to 2,300 gallons a year. Dougherty's low-flush toilet uses just 0.8 gpf, and she doesn't flush it every time (a good motto: If it's yellow, let it mellow; if it's brown, flush it down).

When it comes to appliances such as the clothes washer, a front-loading washer is more water efficient than a top-loading one. But Dougherty takes it one step further: She wears most clothes at least three times before washing them, and does laundry about once every 10 days.

Experts in water conservation say one reason Americans don't conserve water is because of pricing.

"We have inexpensive water in the United States," said David Sunding, an economist and co-director of the Berkeley Water Center at the University of California. "There's not a technical barrier to getting down to lower levels of consumption. If we incentivized conservation, we'd get more of it."

ASIAN BRIEFS

China sends 1st minister-level official to Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—China has sent its first ever ministerial-level official to Taiwan for four days of meetings to rebuild ties with the self-ruled island that Beijing claims as its own, after mass protests in Taipei set back relations earlier this year. Zhang Zhijun, minister of Beijing's Taiwan Affairs Office, reached the island's main airport just before noon Wednesday to speak privately with his government counterpart about cutting import tariffs and establishing consular-style offices helpful to investors and tourists. China and Taiwan have been separately ruled since the Chinese civil war of the 1940s. China sees the island as part of its territory that eventually must be reunified—by force if necessary—despite a Taiwanese public largely wary of the notion of Chinese rule. In 2008, Beijing set aside its military threats to sign agreements binding its economy to that of the investment-hungry island.

Life & Style

Oldman apologizes for defending Gibson and Baldwin

NEW YORK (AP)—Gary Oldman has apologized for defending fellow actors Mel Gibson and Alec Baldwin from critics of their controversial remarks about Jews and gays.

"I am deeply remorseful that comments I recently made in the Playboy Interview were offensive to many Jewish people," Oldman wrote in an open letter to the Anti-Defamation League late Tuesday. "Upon reading my comments in print—I see how insensitive they may be, and how they may indeed contribute to the furtherance of a false stereotype."

During the expletive-laden Playboy interview, Oldman decried the "political correctness" that ensnared Gibson and Baldwin. Gibson delivered an anti-Semitic rant in 2006 while being arrested for drunk driving,



This Jan. 4, 2014 file photo shows actor Gary Oldman speaking at the Palm Springs International Film Festival Awards Gala at the Palm Springs Convention Center in Palm Springs, Calif. AP

and he later apologized. Baldwin last year was accused of using an anti-gay slur in a New York City street confrontation.

Oldman said that Gibson "got drunk and said a few things, but we've all said those things. We're all (expletive) hypocrites." He said he didn't blame Baldwin for using the slur because somebody bothered him.

"Mel Gibson is in a town that's run by Jews and he said the wrong thing because he's actually bitten the hand that I guess has fed him, and doesn't need to feed him anymore because he's got enough dough," Oldman said in the interview.

In his later letter, first re-

ported by the industry website Deadline.com, Oldman wrote, "I hope you will know that this apology is heartfelt, genuine, and that I have an enormous personal affinity for the Jewish people in general, and those specifically in my life."

Oldman's Playboy comments had drawn a sharp response from Jewish leaders.

"Gary Oldman wants Jews to 'get over' what Mel Gibson said. But what Gibson said, was the slogan that Adolf Hitler used to murder six million Jews," said Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. "(Oldman's) comment that Hollywood is a town

'run by Jews' has a very familiar sinister ring to it that is the anthem of bigots and anti-Semites everywhere. That has nothing to do with political correctness," Hier said in a statement to The Associated Press.

Douglas Urbanski, Oldman's longtime manager, said in an earlier email to the AP that his client was not defending his fellow actors, despite Oldman's comment in the article that he was indeed defending the actors.

"It simply cannot be read any other way, and to put it any other way is simply cherry picking something, stating it inaccurately, and creating news where there is none," Urbanski said.

'Star Wars' creator selects Chicago for museum

CHICAGO (AP)—"Star Wars" creator George Lucas announced Tuesday that he has picked Chicago to host his much-anticipated museum of art and movie memorabilia, in a major victory for the nation's third-largest city.

San Francisco and Los Angeles also had sought the museum. Lucas said in a written statement that he hopes to open the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art in 2018.

"I am humbled to be joining such an extraordinary museum community and to be creating the museum in a city that has a long tradition of embracing the arts," the statement said.

The selection was somewhat of a surprise, given Lucas' close ties to California: He is a native of the state, Lucasfilm's visual effects division is based in San Francisco and the headquarters for Lucasfilm and Skywalker Sound is across the Golden Gate

Bridge in Marin County.

But Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel pushed hard for his city. And Chicago was always given a good chance at the Lucas museum, in large part because Lucas' wife, Mellody Hobson, a prominent businesswoman, is from Chicago and the city closed down Promontory Point along the Lake Michigan shore so the couple could host a star-studded party to celebrate after the couple's California wedding.

For the Lucas museum, Chicago offered up a slice of real estate along the lakefront that's near other attractions, including the Shedd Aquarium and the Field Museum of Natural History. At the same time, San Francisco suffered a setback when it rejected Lucas' first choice of a location near the Golden Gate Bridge.

Emanuel has long been trying to portray Chicago as a global des-

tinuation. Throughout the decision process, a spokesman for Lucas praised the city for the attention it heaps on culture, architecture, innovations and education—some of which are the themes Lucas' museum will seek to promote.

"Chicago's a great city. We have a tradition that resonates closely with the way George Lucas has described his museum, as a museum of visual storytelling," said Gillian Darlow, CEO of Polk Bros. Foundation and a co-chair of Chicago's site selection task force. "He wants to help inspire other people, especially kids, to have bold visions the way he did."

Emanuel met with reporters briefly Tuesday evening at City Hall to announce the decision. "I can't thank George and Mellody enough," Emanuel said. He pledged to work with the community to develop plans for the museum.

Dylan's 'Like a Rolling Stone' draft sells for \$2M

NEW YORK (AP)—A draft of one of the most popular songs of all time, Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone," sold Tuesday for \$2 million, which the auction house called a world record for a popular music manuscript.

A working draft of the finished song in Dylan's own hand went to an unidentified bidder at Sotheby's. The selling price, \$2.045 million, included a buyer's premium.

The manuscript is "the only known surviving draft of the final lyrics for this transformative rock anthem," Sotheby's said.

The draft is written in pencil on four sheets of hotel letterhead stationery with revisions, additions, notes and doodles: a hat, a bird, an animal with antlers. The stationery comes from the Roger Smith Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Dylan was 24 when he recorded the song in 1965 about a debutante who becomes a loner when she's cast from upper-class social circles.

"How does it feel To be on your own" it says in his handwriting. "No direction home Like a complete unknown Like a rolling stone."

Scrawls seem to reflect the artist's experimentation with rhymes.

The name "Al Capone" is scrawled in the margin, with a line leading to the lyrics "Like a complete unknown."

Another note says: "...dry vermouth, you'll tell the truth..."



In this Jan. 12, 2012 file photo, Bob Dylan performs in Los Angeles. AP

Sotheby's described the seller as a longtime fan from California "who met his hero in a non-rock context and bought directly from Dylan." He was not identified.

The manuscript was offered as part of Sotheby's rock and pop music sale.

In 2010, John Lennon's handwritten lyrics for "A Day in the Life," the final track on the Beatles' classic 1967 album "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," sold for \$1.2 million, the record for such a sale.

Expectant mom's disappointment more common than she thinks

DEAR ABBY: When I read the letter from "Undeserving Title of Mommy" (March 4), the pregnant woman who was saddened by the fact that she's expecting a baby boy instead of the girl she had hoped for, my heart went out to her. I was reminded of something I had read about, a condition called gender depression or gender disappointment.

In the cursory search I did, it was almost always described as what this mother seems to be feeling—disappointment, sadness, guilt, etc. Unfortunately, this condition isn't widely discussed, in much the same way that postpartum depression isn't talked about. However, from what I've discovered, the writer is far from the only woman to experience this.

Many women describe their feelings about gender disappointment on parenting websites. This may be a good start, opening a discussion for this woman on what she is feeling. She should also consider talking to her doctor to find out what resources may be available to her as she works through this.

I hope she finds the help she needs. I wish her well.

CONCERNED IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR CONCERNED: Thank you for the suggestion. Many women sympathized with "Undeserving." Read on for more responses:

DEAR ABBY: I have a son, and when I was carrying him, I felt the same way. I didn't think I could love him like I could love a daughter. I didn't tell anyone about my feelings and I, too, felt like a monster.

But this all changed once I held my son for the first time. I can't imagine now living without my little guy, and I wouldn't change him for the world.

"Undeserving" is not alone. Many women feel this way about having a son. Like Abby said, don't rush into signing any papers, because you may find that when you hold him for the first time, you will fall in love and you would deeply regret having done so.

UNDERSTANDING MOM

DEAR ABBY: "Undeserving Mommy," you are so lucky to be the mother of a prince. Every princess dreams of marrying a prince. You need to reread the fairy tales and get some counseling.

GRANDMOTHER OF PRINCESSES
AND PRINCE CHARMING

DEAR ABBY: You should have also advised that woman that before she has four children -- princes or princesses -- she should get an education, a job and a husband so society won't have to support her little "kingdom." Too many children have no father figure to help raise them. I spent my working life striving to educate my children, and achieving that goal is much more difficult when there aren't two loving parents to share the job.

FRED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR ABBY: Even if that child was another girl, there is no guarantee that she would be a girly-girl; she could easily be a tomboy, gay or prefer sports to tea parties. There is also no

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



guarantee that the little girl "Undeserving" already has will be a girly-girl.

Abby, you were right to advise counseling. This unwed mother shows disturbing signs of living in a fantasy world. And it may well be that the precious baby boy she is expecting would be better off being raised by the father and his family.

JANE IN ST. JOHNS, MICH.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

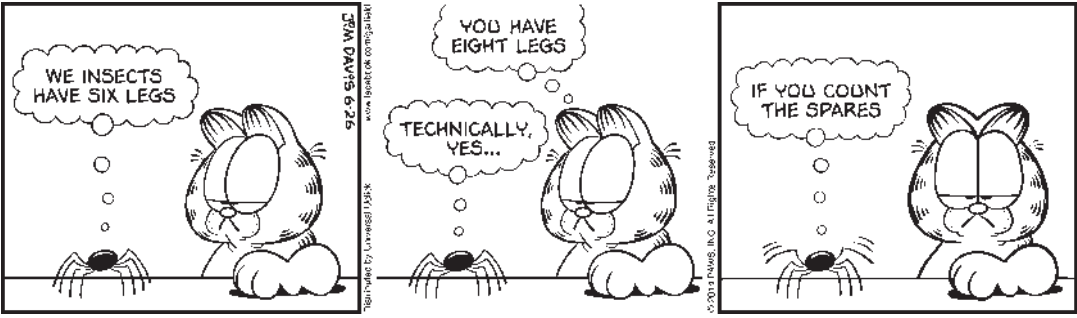
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



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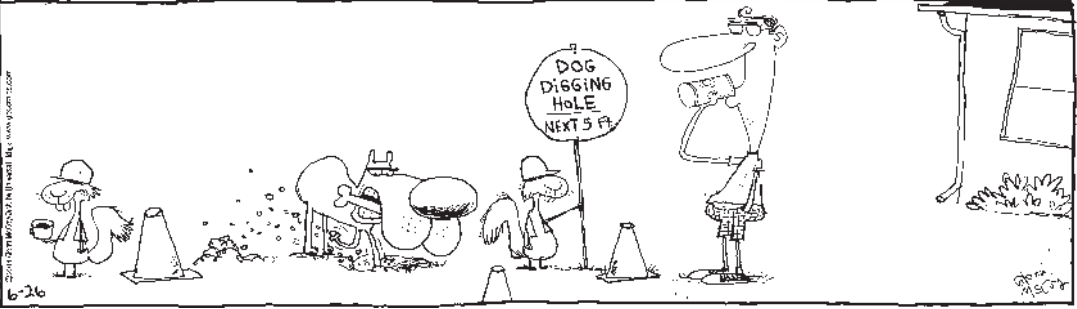
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Saunter 1 Untalkative one 5 Police officer 8 Tweety's house 12 Tibetan monk 13 "Wha'd'ja say?" 14 Cameo stone 15 Greatly 16 "— not choose to run" 17 Arrived 18 Package 20 Greenpeace subj. 22 "First Lady of the American Theater" 26 Roadside stopover 29 Carnival city 30 Speed along 31 Sleeping 32 Levy 33 Miles of movies 34 Up to 35 Astronaut Grissom

DOWN 37 "I Am Woman" singer 40 Lacking slack 41 Gum arabic 45 "Oh, woe" 47 Long. 49 Amateur-night item, often 50 Double agent 51 Leading lady? 52 Author Wiesel 53 Skating leap 54 Blue 55 "Phooey!"

21 Comedian 2 Tra followers 3 Cupid's specialty 4 Corresponded 5 Relax 6 African lute 7 Capital of Arizona 8 Winter warmer-upper 9 Studies in depth 10 Workout venue 11 PC file extension 19 Moray, for one 23 Obliterate 24 Hibernia 25 Fix, in a sense 26 Trig, e.g. 27 Theater trophy 28 Poe's "The — Heart" 32 Teenage Mutant Ninjas 33 Interstellar space vessel 35 Wildebeest 36 XL squared 38 Painting prop 39 Old hat 42 Pop flavor 43 First ltr. 44 A really long time 45 "I — Camera" 46 Bagel topping 48 Actress Gardner

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterdays answer 6-26

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Schwartzman, 34; Derek Jeter, 40; Ryan Tedder, 35; Chris O'Donnell, 44.

Happy Birthday: Keep your life simple and meaningful. Overindulging mentally, physically, emotionally or financially will add to your stress and postpone your ability to reach your goals. Work quietly on your own where you can accomplish the most with the least interference. Focus on creativity and taking a unique path that will give you greater vision and clarity regarding your future. Your numbers are 3, 10, 22, 24, 31, 36, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get together with friends, neighbors or people in your community. A kind gesture will help you get the support you need to make changes. Travel, gaining experience and educational pursuits will help you make wise choices regarding future prospects. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Finish what you start and take a moment to relax. You will be criticized for your attitude if you aren't a team player. Do what you can to add comfort to your home and to stabilize an important relationship. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An emotional issue should be dealt with quickly. Your immediate response will make a difference to how others react. Make subtle changes to the way you look and it will boost your confidence. Using innovative means to complete your work will be applauded. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): There will be plenty of underlying situations that develop today. Let your intuition guide

you in the choices you make. Things will not be as they appear, and the wrong assumption can damage your reputation. Don't share personal information. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can make professional and domestic changes that will improve your life. Put a little muscle behind what you want to achieve and success will be yours. Getting involved in a cause will lead to new and exciting connections. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be diplomatic when dealing with colleagues. You will be misinterpreted if you aren't articulate. Emotions will be difficult to hide, but in the end, you will excel if you can show control and handle everyone with dignity. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Learn new skills and pursue information. Making a move mentally or physically will help you feel good about who you are and what you do. Love is on the rise, and making a personal choice will lead to greater happiness. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be cautious when signing contracts or considering investments. Someone isn't likely to reveal hidden stipulations. Put greater emphasis on your home, family and life philosophy. A change with regard to work or those you work with will be in your favor. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Being evasive will not help you sidestep personal problems. You are better off to face the music and make the changes necessary to improve your life. Love is on the rise, but doing what's right must be your first consideration. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A unique approach to work will help you gain interest in your pursuit. You will make good decisions that will lead to financial gains. A professional move or a new partnership will have its advantages. Share and you will prosper. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on getting ahead financially. Tie up any unfinished legal business or medical concerns. The more creative you allow yourself to be, the further you will go. Plan to have some fun with the people who mean a lot to you. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stick to the truth. Embellishing the past will end up hurting you in the future. Problems with someone you want to collaborate with will leave you with a plan that you cannot bring to fruition. Compromise will be necessary. **

Birthday Baby: You are chatty, sensitive and protective. You are inventive and entertaining.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE 2014 KENTUCKY DERBY Solution: 16 letters

NCNOITITEPEMOCBR
OAPELUJTNIIMIAUE
ICOLTSETSAFNRRN
TRONREVOGLTDFGN
IPJOCKEYBNOIYOI
DIKSIFOROREEBOW
ACCABINMTSOLOWA
RKAENALHROADYNG
TSRSYEEUSADDLEE
EETUBBRPGNINNUR
KIMAONIHAHTSTOI
NRASKAOACHPNNG
AEESSENRAHOERAG
LSTOSESROHRVMLE
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Yesterday's Answer: Left-handed
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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the) FCD-AD-CIVIL
Adoption of:) ACTION
) NO. 14-0278

Seth Michael Lawrence)
S. Norita) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
Minor Child)
)
By:)
)
Emmine Norita & Jeff Norita)
Petitioner(s).)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on

August 4, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom

205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2014.

Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

WHATZIT Solution: Train of thought

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CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

Nadal's grass-court winning streak now stands at 1



L O N D O N (AP)—Chasing a shot to his right, Rafael Nadal slipped and tumbled to the Centre Court turf. He popped up, raced across the baseline to get back into the point, and later capped the 14-stroke exchange with a backhand passing winner.

The reason for the two-time Wimbledon champion's recent inability to play well on grass remains something of a mystery. As far as Nadal was concerned Tuesday, all that mattered was that he dusted himself off and eventually ended a three-match—and seven-set—losing streak on the slick surface.

Overcoming a deficit against a flat-hitting opponent who kept finding lines early, Nadal beat 51st-ranked Martin Klizan of

Slovakia 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 to reach the second round. Nadal's reaction afterward - pumping fists, raising arms aloft, tossing souvenirs to the crowd—was rather over-the-top for a guy who owns 14 Grand Slam titles.

"So happy for the victory. In the end, the match was difficult. After the first set, (it) was even more difficult," said the Spaniard, who is ranked No. 1 and seeded No. 2 but approached this opening-round encounter with some trepidation. "When you go on court and you lost last year in the first round, the year before in the second round ... (I'm not) going to lie ... it stays in your mind."

Next for Nadal is a match against the man who beat him in 2012's second round, Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic.

"He is a very dangerous play-

er; very strong, very powerful at the baseline," Nadal said.

Other past champions in action on Day 2 advanced, too, including Roger Federer, Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova, all in straight sets. Last year, when everything around these parts was turned upside down by surprise after surprise, that trio joined Nadal with early exits; Williams was the last of the group standing, and she departed in the fourth round.

Williams needed to cast aside four break points during a 10-minute first game Tuesday, but after getting that out of the way, breezed to a 6-1, 6-2 win against Anna Tatishvili. Sharapova lost all of one game against British wild-card entry Samantha Murray.

Seven-time champion Federer's 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 victory

dropped Italy's Paolo Lorenzi to 0-13 for his Grand Slam career, while 2002 champion Lleyton Hewitt eliminated Michal Przysiezny of Poland 6-2, 6-7 (14), 6-1, 6-4.

"This is what I still play for," said the 33-year-old Hewitt, a former No. 1 now ranked 48th after a series of injury issues. "You do all the hard work to come back and play in places like this. You don't get sick of coming out here and playing at Wimbledon."

One seeded man who lost was No. 29 Ivo Karlovic, beaten by Canada's Frank Dancevic 6-4, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).

Seeded women on the way out were No. 7 Jelena Jankovic, the 2008 U.S. Open runner-up; No. 28 Svetlana Kuznetsova, a two-time major champion who lost to Michelle Larcher de Bri-

to of Portugal 3-6, 6-3, 6-1; and No. 29 Sorana Cirstea, who was beaten 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 by 18-year-old qualifier Vicky Duval of the United States.

Another U.S. teenager, wild-card entry Taylor Townsend, lost to No. 31 Klara Koukalova of the Czech Republic 7-5, 6-2, but otherwise there was a strong showing by Americans. No. 9 John Isner, Sam Querrey, Jack Sock, Denis Kudla, Madison Keys and Varvara Lepchenko advanced.

For Nadal, everything comes so easily on red clay, and he just added his record ninth trophy at the French Open. But he says grass is a lot tougher on his knees, which have bothered him off and on for years.

"When I am playing on clay, I don't have to think a lot about what I have to do," Nadal said.

"Here, you need to adjust the movement. You need to adjust the rhythm. You need to find the right feeling on the speed of the ball."

Still, Nadal used to be fine on the green stuff.

He played for the title on five consecutive trips to Wimbledon from 2006-11, winning the championship in 2008 and 2010 (he missed the tournament in 2009 because of a knee injury). But in 2012, he lost to then-100th-ranked Rosol. Last year, Nadal exited in the first round against 135th-ranked Steve Darcis. And this month, Nadal lost his opening match at a grass-court tuneup in Halle, Germany, to 65th-ranked Dustin Brown.

For a little more than a set Tuesday, Nadal ran into trouble again on grass. This time, he turned things around.

LeBron tells Heat he will become free agent

TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James delivered his message loud and clear, without actually saying a word.

He's willing to leave Miami, if that's what it will take to win more championships. And what happens next will likely be up to not just the Heat, but

Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh as well.

Through his agent, James informed the Heat on Tuesday that he has decided to opt out of the final two years of his contract, a move that means he becomes a free agent on July 1. He will be able to sign with any team, including Miami, and Heat President Pat Riley said he "fully expected" James to take advantage of his early termination option.

"We look forward to sitting

down with LeBron and his representatives and talking about our future together," Riley said.

The Heat have been preparing for this for some time. James, Wade and Bosh all got six-year contracts when they teamed up in Miami in July 2010, the last time free agency was accompanied by the sort of frenzy that will envelop the league over the next few weeks. But each of those deals came with options to leave either this summer or in 2015, in part

to allow both the players and the team to have financial flexibility.

James—who averaged 27.1 points this past season—was owed \$42.7 million for the next two seasons, though that seems irrelevant in the sense that he'll be getting plenty of money from the Heat or someone else for years to come. If he stays with Miami, he could sign a deal that would give the team room to maneuver within the structures of the salary cap and luxury-tax threshold.

So could Wade and Bosh, if they choose to opt out as well—and if both do, Miami would potentially have plenty of cash to spend on roster upgrades. Neither has announced their plans, though both have previously said they want to remain in Miami.

"No news here yet," Wade said Tuesday.

James stayed silent as well, with agent Rich Paul being the one who informed the Heat of the four-time NBA MVP's plan. But last week, while still dealing with the sting of losing the NBA Finals to San Antonio,

James expressed how enticing the idea of flexibility is to him.

"Being able to have flexibility as a professional, anyone, that's what we all would like," James said last week. "That's in any sport, for a football player, a baseball player, a basketball player, to have flexibility and be able to control your future or your present. I have a position to be able to do that. ... There's a lot of times that you're not in control of your future as a professional."

He's in control now. He turns 30 next season. He might just be entering his prime.

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Zimmerman's homer lifts Nats over Brewers in 16



MILWAUKEE (AP)—

Ryan Zimmerman's two-run home run in the 16th inning lifted the Washington Nationals to a 4-2 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Tuesday.

Zimmerman hit a 2-0 pitch off Mike Fiers (0-1) over the wall in left field to score Adam LaRoche for the Nationals fourth consecutive win.

Tyler Clippard (5-2) pitched a scoreless 15th for the win. Rafael Soriano pitched the 16th for his 18th save.

With one out in the 16th, LaRoche hit a sharp single that bounced off the wall in right field. Zimmerman then hit his third home run of the year to give the Nationals the lead in a game that took 5 hours, 22 minutes.

The Brewers threatened in the 13th, 14th and 15th innings, but couldn't score.

Diamondbacks 9, Indians 8, 14 innings

In Phoenix, Aaron Hill singled in Gerardo Parra from third in the 14th inning to lift Arizona past Cleveland just past midnight in a game that matched the longest in Chase Field history.

Parra tied his career high with five hits in a game that saw Cleveland tie it with a run in the ninth and both teams score two in the 11th.

At 5 hours, 32 minutes, the game matched the Diamondbacks' 10-9 win against St. Louis on April 3, 2013.

Parra singled off Mark Lowe (0-1), the Indians' 10th pitcher. He stole second and advanced to third on a fly ball.

Carlos Santana's two-run homer put Cleveland up 8-6 in the 11th. David Peralta homered in the bottom of the inning and Ender Inciarte's RBI single tied it.

Josh Collmenter (6-4), the ninth pitcher for Arizona, pitched a scoreless 14th.

Dodgers 2, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Missouri, Clayton Kershaw followed his first career no-hitter with eight marvelous innings, and Adrian Gonzalez and Andre Ethier drove in a run apiece to lead Los Angeles.

Kershaw (8-2) allowed six hits and a walk while striking out eight. The two-time Cy Young winner hasn't allowed a run in 21 1-3 innings, spanning his near-perfect game against Colorado on Wednesday — the only runner occurred on an error — and his previous start against Arizona.

Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 23rd save.

Danny Duffy (4-7) dueled admirably with Kershaw for six innings, allowing one run on four hits and four walks. But the left-hander was done in by a high pitch count, needing a season-high 105, and was eventually lifted to protect his surgi-



AP
Washington Nationals' Ryan Zimmermann follows through a two-run home run against the Milwaukee Brewers during the 16th inning of a baseball game Wednesday, June 25, 2014, in Milwaukee.

cally repaired shoulder.

Pirates 6, Rays 5

In St. Petersburg, FL, Andrew McCutchen drove in two runs, Jeff Locke pitched into the eighth inning, and Pittsburgh beat Tampa Bay.

The Pirates have the NL's best record (27-18) since May 6, and moved above .500 (39-38) for the first time since starting the season 7-6.

McCutchen had an RBI single during a three-run third inning that put the Pirates ahead 4-0.

Locke (1-1) allowed three runs and eight hits over 7 1-3 innings. His night ended in the eighth when Evan Longoria trimmed the Rays' deficit to 6-3 with a two-run homer.

Mark Melancon got his 13th save despite giving up Brandon Guyer's two-run single in the ninth that pulled Tampa Bay to 6-5.

Chris Archer (4-5) gave up five runs and seven hits in seven innings for the Rays, who have lost 20 of 28.

Blue Jays 7, Yankees 6

In Toronto, Jose Reyes atoned for a pair of misplays by hitting a leadoff double in the ninth inning and scoring when Yankees third baseman Yangervis Solarte threw away a bunt, lifting Toronto past New York.

The Yankees trailed 6-0 before tying it, then lost their fourth in a row.

Reyes doubled off Adam Warren (1-4) into the right-field corner. Melky Cabrera followed

with a sacrifice bunt, and Warren and Solarte seemed to hesitate over who would field it.

Solarte picked up the ball and threw it past second baseman Brian Roberts covering at first. The ball sailed into foul territory down the right-field line and Reyes trotted home.

Casey Janssen (2-0) worked one inning for the victory.

White Sox 4, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Jose Quintana allowed one run in seven innings, Gordon Beckham homered and Chicago snapped a five-game losing streak.

Alexei Ramirez had two hits and scored twice for the last-place White Sox, who had lost nine of 11 overall and eight straight on the road.

Quintana (4-7) gave up six hits—including a solo homer by Steve Pearce—struck out eight and walked three. The left-hander was 0-3 in four starts since May 26.

One night after blowing a ninth-inning lead in the series opener, White Sox closer Ronald Belisario entered in the ninth with no outs and a runner on first. He surrendered a pinch-hit RBI single to Delmon Young before getting pinch-hitter Ryan Flaherty to bounce into a double play for his eighth save.

Miguel Gonzalez (4-5) yielded three runs and a career-high tying nine hits in five innings for Baltimore.

Mets 10, Athletics 1

In New York, slumping outfielder Chris Young homered

twice, Travis d'Arnaud hit a three-run shot in his return from a demotion and the towel-waving New York Mets roughed up Scott Kazmir and Oakland.

Bartolo Colon (8-5) shut down the team that didn't want him back this year despite an 18-win season, pitching four-hit ball for eight innings against the AL West leaders.

Curtis Granderson homered, he and David Wright had RBI groundouts, and Daniel Murphy added a run-scoring single for the Mets, who scored at least 10 runs in consecutive games for the first time since June 28-29, 2011, in Detroit.

Young homered off Kazmir (9-3) in the second, four pitches after Granderson hit a two-run drive for the Mets first back-to-back homers since Sept. 14.

Phillies 7, Marlins 4

In Philadelphia, Marlon Byrd hit a two-run homer, David Buchanan threw five effective innings and Philadelphia beat Miami.

Buchanan (4-3) allowed two runs and six hits to help the Phillies snap a three-game losing streak. The rookie right-hander struck out Marcell Ozuna on a 3-2 changeup with two runners on and two outs in the fifth, preserving a 4-2 lead. He pumped his fist and shouted as he walked off the mound.

Miami's Garrett Jones hit a two-run homer off B.J. Rosenberg in the eighth. Jonathan Papelbon tossed a scoreless ninth for his 18th save in 20 tries.

Andrew Heaney (0-2) gave up five runs and four hits in five-plus innings in his second career start for the Marlins.

Braves 3, Astros 2

In Houston, brothers B.J. and Justin Upton tied the major league record for brothers homering in the same game as teammates, accomplishing the feat for the fourth time, to lead Atlanta past Houston.

B.J. Upton's homer was a solo shot off Scott Feldman (3-5) in the third inning that put Atlanta up 2-1. Younger brother Justin connected off Feldman the next inning to push the lead to 3-1.

It was a nice bounce-back game for the brothers, who were coming off a four-game series against Washington in which they went a combined 2 for 27.

Aaron Harang (6-6) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings. Craig Kimbrel pitched a scoreless ninth for his 22nd save.

Houston rookie George Springer hit his team-leading 14th home run and Jose Altuve added two hits to give him a major league-best 105.

Tigers 8, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Texas, Ian Kinsler homered in the first at-bat of his return to Texas as an opponent and J.D. Martinez had a tiebreaking two-run shot as the Detroit Tigers beat the Rangers 8-2 on Tuesday night.

The AL Central-leading Tigers won their fifth consecutive game.

Kinsler spent the first eight seasons of his career in Texas before being traded for Prince Fielder in a swap of All-Stars last winter. Kinsler got more cheers than boos when he was introduced in the first inning, then sent a pitch by Colby Lewis (5-5) into the left-field seats.

Martinez homered to center off Lewis in the seventh, a pitch after Victor Martinez doubled, for a 3-1 lead.

Adrian Beltre went 4 for 4 for Texas, pushing his career total to 2,503 hits.

Drew Smyly (4-6) allowed only one unearned run over six innings.

Cubs 7, Reds 3

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta retired his first 18 batters and struck out nine in seven impressive innings for Chicago.

Arrieta (4-1) was working on a perfect game before rookie Billy Hamilton started the seventh with a single up the middle. The right-hander allowed two runs and three hits while improving to 3-0 with a 1.14 ERA in five June starts.

Anthony Rizzo belted a solo homer for the second straight night for the Cubs, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Welington Castillo drove in two runs, including a sacrifice fly in Chicago's three-run eighth.

Devin Mesoraco homered for the fifth straight game for Cincinnati, matching a franchise record. Mesoraco's 14th homer came with one out in the ninth against Neil Ramirez.

The start of the game was delayed 53 minutes by rain.

Homer Bailey (7-4) retired his first 11 batters, striking out five, for Cincinnati.

Mariners 8, Red Sox 2

In Seattle, Kyle Seager had an RBI double in the first inning and hit a three-run homer in the fifth off Boston starter Jake Peavy as Seattle won its fifth straight.

The Mariners matched their longest winning streak of the season thanks to another offensive outburst. One night after putting up 12 runs on the Red Sox, Seattle hit two homers and handed Boston its fifth loss in six games.

Seager's homer was his 11th of the season, 10 of those coming at Safeco Field. Mike Zunino followed with a solo shot as part of Seattle's four-run fifth inning. It was Zunino's 10th home run.

Joe Beimel (2-1) got four outs in relief of starter Erasmo Ramirez to get the victory. Ramirez again failed to get deep into the game and was done after 4 1-3 innings.

Peavy (1-6) has allowed 16 homers in 16 starts this season. He was pulled after the fifth and the seven earned runs were a season high.

Mendoza, Velasco take MVP plums

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ali'i swept the Most Valuable Player honors in the DLX/IT&E Invitational Basketball League with guard Kobe Mendoza winning the regular season MVP plum and swingman Raymond Velasco notching the Finals MVP award.

Mendoza bagged the most coveted individual award in the league for leading Ali'i to an unbeaten record (5-0) in the elimination round. He was one of the top scorers on squad and also did a steady quarterbacking job for the eventual champion, which downed I Love Saipan in the finals last Saturday, 74-65. Mendoza capped his season with a team-high 23 points in their title victory, including Ali'i's last eight points.

Helping Mendoza lift Ali'i to victory in the finals was Velasco. The newcomer scored 16 points in the finale with his consecutive baskets in the second quarter allowing Ali'i to open a double-



Mendoza



Velasco

digit spread at halftime, 39-28. The workhorse also made an alley-oop shot in the fourth quarter that halted I Love Saipan's rally in the closing minutes and teamed up with Ali'i big men in crashing the board against the much taller and heftier frontliners of their opponents.

Both Velasco and Mendoza received specially crafted trophies during the awards ceremony after the finals game last weekend. Mendoza went home with two individual awards, as he was also named to the Mythical Five, joining I Love Saipan's Gyles Ruluked, Gwap Gang's

Shane Deleon Guerrero and Sean Rabasto, and Flip Top's Jake Quitugua.

Deleon Guerrero and Rabasto towed Gwap Gang to a semis stint and also handed the team a perfect record (5-0) in Pool B of the league. In the semis, Gwap Gang bowed to Ali'i despite the double-figure scoring of Deleon Guerrero and Rabasto, who tallied 14 and 11 markers in the 68-74 loss.

Quitugua had only 10 markers in their 61-114 defeat at the hands of I Love Saipan for the battle for a finals berth, but was the hero of their 70-67 upset versus Gwap Gang, drilling the go-ahead free throws in the last 1.5 seconds of the match. He had 23 points in that close win and logged twin digits in four of their five victories in the elimination round.

Ruluked had a game-high 26 markers in the finals, keeping I Love Saipan in the match with his inside baskets. He combined for 18 points in the first two games in the semifinals.

Swimming Festival registration deadline on June 27

The last day to register for the Marianas Visitors Authority's inaugural Swimming Festival (formerly the Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race Tournament) on Managaha on June 28, 2014, is the day before the event, June 27.

So far, 44 swimmers from Japan have registered for the event. They include gymnast and Olympic medalist Takehiro Kashima, who won gold and bronze medals in the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens and a silver medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. Kashima is the guest of Central Sports Co., Ltd., the largest fitness club franchise in Japan and co-organizer of the swimming festival.

"We're very excited to hear from our Japan office that Olympic medalist Takehiro Kashima is expected to join the list of swimmers this year," said MVA community projects manager Martin Duenas. "As always, safety is our first concern, and we look forward to providing a safe and enjoyable event for all the participants during the festival."

Representatives of Japan media *Marine Diving Magazine* and Music Bird radio will also be on island to cover the event.

The MVA is inviting all swimmers and snorkelers to discover the underwater wonders of Managaha with a 1.5K course around the island. For 11 consecutive years Managaha has been named "Best Beach and Snorkeling" at Japan's annual Marine Diving Fair, and local swimmers are invited to join visitors in exploring the submarine beauty of the island this month.

This unique race requires swimmers to must use wetsuits or life jacket and fins along with mask and snorkels. Awards will be given for Overall Male and Female (first, second, and third places), Junior Male and Female (ages 10 and under, 11-12, 13-15, and 16-18). Competition age divisions are: 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60-and-up.

Ferries will depart Smiling Cove Marina to Managaha promptly at 4:45am the morning of the race. The race will begin at 6:30am, followed by

an island-style breakfast and awards ceremony on the white sand beaches of Managaha.

The cost is \$25 for Northern Mariana Islands residents with valid I.D. The deadline to register with the MVA is June 27, 2014, from 4:30pm to 5:30pm during the orientation at the American Memorial Park amphitheater on Saipan. Participants must be in good health with snorkeling or diving experience.

Event sponsors include Japan Marine Recreation Association, Japan Recreational Diving Industry Association, Japan Scuba Association, Japan Wetsuits Manufacturers Association, University life Sport Education Society, and Northern Mariana Diving Operators Association. Co-sponsors of the event are Delta Air Lines, Japan Saipan Travel Association, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, DFS Saipan, and the Commonwealth Health Center.

For more information or to register, visit the MVA Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or call Ed Diaz at 664-3210. (MVA)

URUGUAY

From Page 28

he said.

About a minute later, the decisive goal was scored on a powerful thrust of head and shoulder from captain Diego Godin that somehow had perfect direction. Italy was down to 10 men since the 59th minute, when Claudio Marchisio received a red card for putting his boot into Egidio Arevalo's knee.

It was the second straight time that Italy, a four-time champion, went out in the first round.

"When you're coming off two defeats without even scoring a goal, we clearly also have to take our share of

that blame," said goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, who played on his fifth World Cup squad. After the game, Italy coach Cesare Prandelli immediately resigned and midfield maestro Andrea Pirlo retired from international play.

The draw against England gave Costa Rica, the surprise team of the competition, first place in Group D over three former champions, and gutted more of the European contingent at the tournament.

The Central Americans reached the second round in 1990. But this time they did it as group winner, beating top-rate opposition.

And after an opening loss to

Costa Rica, Uruguay recovered with two victories to keep its tournament alive, four years after a surprising run to the semifinals.

After beating England with two great goals to start the comeback, Suarez turned into the villain on Tuesday. The mercurial forward had already been banned twice for biting over the past four years, once in the Netherlands and once in England. FIFA can sanction players for biting with bans of up to two years.

Uruguay will now play Colombia in an all-South American encounter, with Costa Rica taking on Greece. If anyone had said before the World Cup that either Greece or Costa Rica would be a quarterfinalist, there

would have been precious few believers.

But beyond goals, it also takes upsets like the runs of Costa Rica and Greece to make a World Cup truly great. And with each passing day, the 2014 edition is drawing nearer.

Often chided for being super defensive, Greece needed to go out looking for a win over Ivory Coast and did so from start really right up to the finish. It doubled its total scoring tally at World Cup tournaments with two—the second coming through an injury-time penalty that secured a 2-1 victory and sent much of the crisis hit country into a frenzy, celebrating its first passage ever in the second round.

After Spain already landed back home after a disastrous defense of its title, Tuesday was also the day to wave England out, and not even with a victory. It lost its first two games and also failed to deflate an ebullient Costa Rica in a 0-0 draw. The English created several chances, but the end result was another bitter setback.

"We are so disappointed not to finish with a victory, but I don't think I have asked for a much better performance," said coach Roy Hodgson.

And finally, showing that high-stakes football still has time for sentiment, Colombia gave a few minutes of play to 43-year-old substitute goal-

keeper Faryd Mondragon, making him the oldest player to compete at a World Cup.

"Faryd has been a very important player for us ... so we gave him the chance," said Colombia coach Jose Pekerman.

Mondragon broke the record set by Cameroon striker Roger Milla, who was 42 when he played in the 1994 finals in the United States.

Colombia already had a safe two-goal cushion over Japan. And Pekerman needn't have worried. Even at 43, Mondragon still made one good save.

CNMI

From Page 28

The Commonwealth bets won over Canada, 11-9, and Italy, 13-2, and lost to Puerto Rico, 2-5, and Aruba, 3-5.

To boost their chances for a World Series stint, the CNMI Junior All-Stars must finish in the Top 2 in the elimination round. The Commonwealth youth players are in Pool A of the Junior League contest, joining Chinese-Taipei, Guam, Vietnam, and the host

Philippines. The CNMI bets will play Guam in the opener on Monday.

Of the four teams, Cabrera picked Chinese-Taipei as their toughest foe. He added that Guam is also a contender although the CNMI's neighbor has missed the past few edition of the regional tournament.

Meanwhile, the three other CNMI teams left Saipan yesterday for the tournament in the Philippines. The CNMI Little League All-Stars left yesterday morning, while the

Big and Senior teams boarded evening flights.

The CNMI Senior League All-Stars have 16 players on their roster. The list includes Kenji Yamagata, Virolanson Secharmidal, Melvin Sakisat Jr. Jobe Reyes, Jhace Palacios, Franko Nakamura, Michale Muna, Joseph Li-foi-foi Jr. Darion Jones, A.J. Evangelista, Jeffrey Dela Cruz, Kelvin Deleon Guerrero, Nathan Camacho, Jerold Cabrera, Jessie Brel, and Craig Aguon. Joining them

are team manager Patrick Tenorio and coaches Anthony Leon Guerrero and Jack Deleon Guerrero.

Manager Joseph Flores leads the Big League All-Stars, which have Daniel Smith, Lancaster Secharmidal, Raymond Saralu, Taylor Sablan, Thomas Reyes, Jose Lizama Jr. Aldebert Lizama, Frankie Lieto, Lucio Kalen, Khobby Kaipat, Brett Halstead, Jonah Reyes, Steven Cabrera, and Jeremy Atalig as players. Completing the team

are coaches Jonathan Tenorio and John Paul Lizama.

Manny Evangelista is the CNMI Little League All-Stars manager and will be pinning his hopes on Christopher Achas, Vicente Camacho II, Tyrese Camacho, Justin Cangco, Spencer Dickinson, Aven Evangelista, Angei Iguel, Philip Kapileo, Pedro Maratita, Gloyd Martin, Max Pangelinan, Dai Podziewski, Joe Tudela, and Arby Yaguel. Patrick Mendiola and Michael Cruz are the coaches.

TBK

From Page 28

Pelicans' key players made it hard for them to match TBK's firepower. TBK's offense had multiple options with Jake Quitugua leading the way with his 24 points. Jerome Reyes chipped in 16, Ivan Devero added 15, and his brother Christian contributed 12. Three other TBK players nailed at least five points apiece.

In the second game, Island

Manpower's guns were also blazing, as it surpassed the century mark to blow out and dethrone Docomo.

Island Manpower had a jackrabbit start, sizzling for 35 points in the first period, but led by only 6, as Docomo countered the former's hot shooting, drilling 29 markers. Jerome Norita was on target for Island Manpower, firing 16 points, while James Villacrusis led Docomo with his 9 markers.

In the second frame, Island

Manpower slowed down a bit, but still had 20-plus points, recording 26. Norita was still at it and got help from Ed Pangilinan, Syl Teregeyo, and Cecilio Bisana, who combined for 19 markers to outscore the entire Docomo team and hand Island Manpower a commanding 61-41 halftime edge.

Docomo was held to 12 point in the second canto, nailing only four field goals and drawing more than 2 points from only one player—James Villacrusis

(6 points). It was a tough uphill climb for Docomo from thereon and the deposed champion never made headway in the second half to mount a comeback.

First Game

TBK 102 — Quitugua 24, Reyes 16, I. Devero 15, C. Devero 12, Catalla 9, Mateo 7, Santos 5, Velasco 2.

Pelicans 88 — Galarse 18, Camacho 16, Brennan 16, Santos 15, Babauta 13, Reyes 9, Yamada 6, Namelo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 27-12, 56-33, 81-56, 102-88.

Second Game

Island Manpower 102 — Reyes 26, Bisana 18, Teregeyo 12, Pangilinan 12, Capalad 6, Tabora 6, Lizama 3, Kaipat 2, Mateo 2.

Docomo Pacific 86 — Villacrusis 25, Diaz 15, Sanciangco 11, Berline 8, Sison 7, Hayes 7, Camacho 7.

Scoring by quarters: 35-29, 61-41, 81-69, 102-86.

MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	44	35	.557	—
Baltimore	40	36	.526	2½
New York	39	37	.513	3½
Boston	35	43	.449	8½
Tampa Bay	31	48	.392	13
Central Division				
Detroit	41	32	.562	—
Kansas City	40	37	.519	3
Cleveland	37	40	.481	6
Minnesota	36	39	.480	6
Chicago	36	42	.462	7½
West Division				
Oakland	47	30	.610	—
Los Angeles	42	33	.560	4
Seattle	42	36	.538	5½
Texas	35	41	.461	11½
Houston	33	45	.423	14½
East Division				
Washington	41	35	.539	—
Atlanta	39	37	.513	2
Miami	38	39	.494	3½
New York	36	41	.468	5½
Philadelphia	35	41	.461	6
Central Division				
Milwaukee	47	32	.595	—
St. Louis	42	36	.538	4½
Pittsburgh	39	38	.506	7
Cincinnati	38	38	.500	7½
Chicago	32	43	.427	13
West Division				
San Francisco	45	32	.584	—
Los Angeles	43	36	.544	3
Colorado	35	42	.455	10
San Diego	34	44	.436	11½
Arizona	33	47	.413	13½
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

21st Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run 7K Winners

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Nathaniel Eugenio gives a thumbs up sign after getting the first place prize in the men's 41 to 50 age group.



Men's 21 to 30 champion John Nekaifes poses with DFS general manager Bruce Lorange.



Boys 13 to 19 winner Seiya Eda shows his prize, while event host Ben Babauta calls on the next winner.



DFS general manager Bruce Lorange, left, poses with U12's 7K top female finisher Coume Kaga, during the awards ceremony for the 21st Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run last Saturday at DFS Galleria.



Men's 31 to 40 top finisher Charlie Sendin and DFS general manager Bruce Lorange smile for the camera.



Over 60 top finisher Suzy Kindel and DFS general manager Bruce Lorange smile for the camera.



Women's 21 to 30 top placer Pipit Ball is all smiles after getting her prize from DFS general manager Bruce Lorange.



Overall top finisher Jesse James poses for a photo with DFS general manager Bruce Lorange.



Women's 41 to 50 champion Sakiko Eda is joined by DFS general manager Bruce Lorange for a photo opportunity.



First female Lorie Hutchinson, left, shows her prize.



**Zimmerman's
homer lifts
Nats over
Brewers in 16**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Nadal's grass-
court winning
streak now
stands at 1**

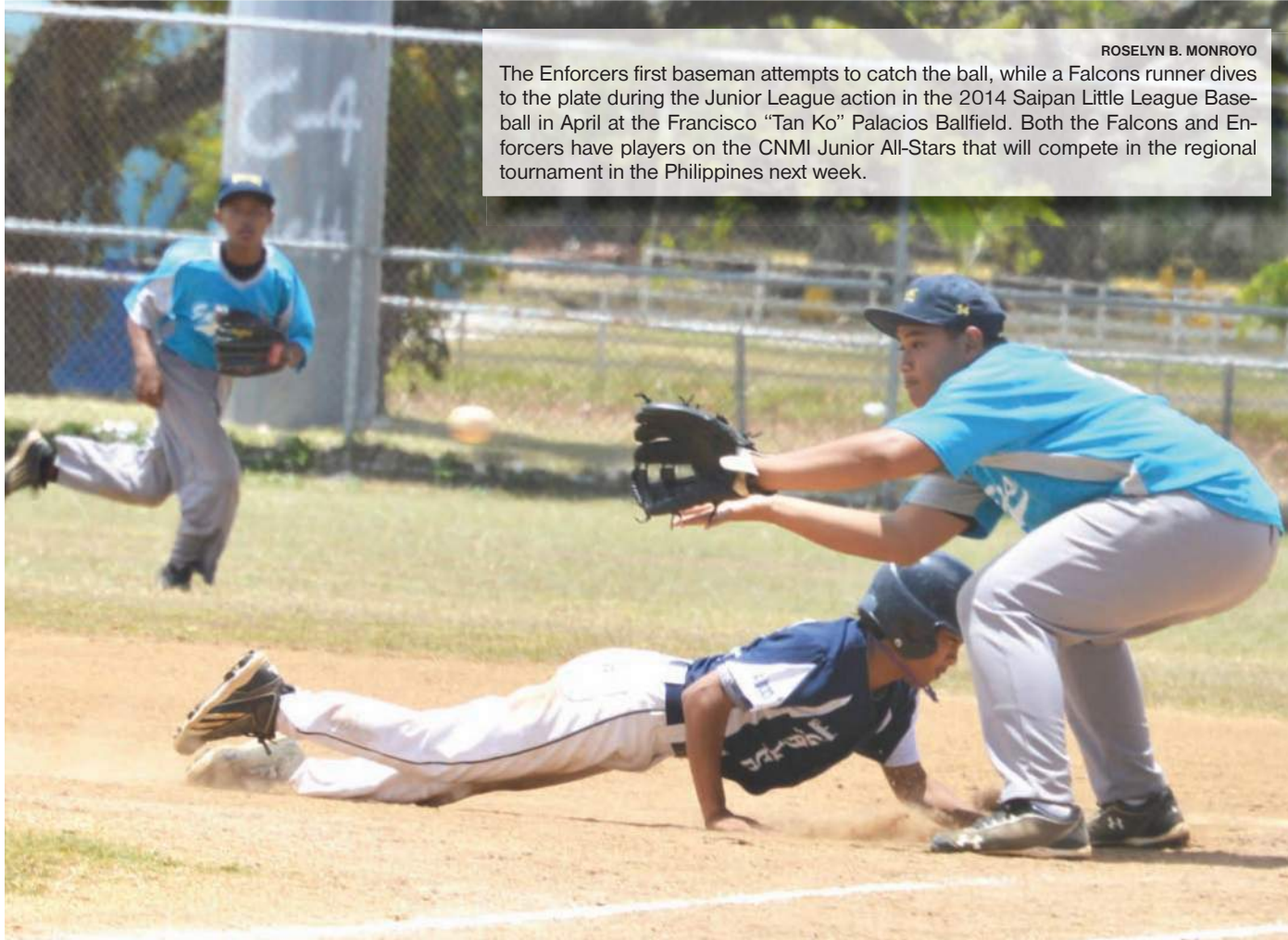
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI Junior All-Stars aim to end drought



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Enforcers first baseman attempts to catch the ball, while a Falcons runner dives to the plate during the Junior League action in the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball in April at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. Both the Falcons and Enforcers have players on the CNMI Junior All-Stars that will compete in the regional tournament in the Philippines next week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior All-Stars will be on a mission when they compete in the 2014 Little League Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament in the Philippines, starting next week.

"We are aiming to end our World Series drought," team manager Bernard Cabrera said in a telephone interview a day before the squad was set to leave for the tournament.

Cabrera, coaches Greg Camacho and Henry Lizama, and the 14-player CNMI Junior All-Stars left Saipan early this morning for the regional competition that will take place from June 28 to July 6 at Clark Freeport Zone in Zambales. The CNMI roster is composed of Donavin Ada, Kier Agda, Kimo Angailen, Donnie Fejeran, Benen Iguel, Tindin Deleon Guerrero, Christian Lizama,



Aurel Mendiola, Brandon Pua, Delin Reusora, Lorenzo Sebaklim, Virgil Secharmidal, Jaydon Tenorio, and Nathaniel Torres.

"We have a pretty strong team with a good mix of good hitters and pitchers. They are all set to play their best game after months of training. Hopefully, we will be able to deliver and get back to the World Series," Cabrera said.

The last time the CNMI made it to the World Series in the Junior League division was in 2009 when it finished the pool play with a 2-2 record.

See CNMI on Page 26

TBK, Island Manpower enter semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



TBK and Island Manpower cruised their way to the semifinals of the 2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League.

TBK routed the Pelicans, 102-88, in the first quarterfinal match last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, while Island Manpower also eased past deposed champion Docomo Pacific in the second game, 102-88, to march into the semifinals. Island Manpower will play in the first semis tiff tonight against Shocker Nation at 6pm, while TBK will challenge the undefeated San Antonio in the second Final Four pairing at 8pm.

A rousing start allowed TBK to coast to the easy win, as it led by double digits at the end of the first period, 27-12. Christian Devero anchored TBK's strong start, scoring 8 of his 12 points in the first quarter, while Rodney Catalla hit two early triples.

TBK maintained the comfortable lead in the last three quarters, as he came in late for the Pelicans. Luiz Reyes reported for duty only in the fourth period and though he scored 9 points and the Pelicans outgunned

TBK in that canto, 32-21, these were not enough to overhaul the big deficit that stood at 35 after the first three quarters, 56-81. Trevor Ogumoro also came in

late in the final canto and was scoreless.

The absence of some of the

See TBK on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Island Manpower's Syl Teregeyo drives against Docomo Pacific's Marlon Sison, left, and Jose Tudela during the third quarter of their playoff game in the DL Corp. caging last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Uruguay beats Italy to advance; Greece late winner

By RAF CASERT
AP SPORTS WRITER



Underscoring a power shift away from Europe, Uruguay fought—and apparently even bit—its way to a 1-0 victory over Italy Tuesday to move to the World Cup's next round with Costa Rica, which sent England home without a single

victory after a goalless draw.

South America's strength was further highlighted when Colombia capped its perfect record in Group C with a 4-1 win over Japan. Europe did get one team through when Greece converted an injury time penalty for a 2-1 victory over Ivory Coast which eliminated the African team.

The evening excitement though could hardly match yet another controversy to haunt Uruguay striker Luis Suarez. Around 80 minutes in, Suarez and Giorgio Chiellini tangled,

with replays showing Suarez seemingly biting the shoulder of the Italian defender. It would make Suarez, amazingly, a triple carnivorous offender on the pitch in four years.

"It was absolutely clear. There's even a mark," Chiellini said.

The referee didn't see a bite, and no foul was called. Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez only had eyes on the result. "For me, and for all the people in Uruguay, we had more important things,"

See URUGUAY on Page 26



Uruguay's Diego Godin, left, celebrates after scoring his side's first goal during the group D World Cup soccer match between Italy and Uruguay at the Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil, Tuesday, June 24, 2014.

AP